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No. 2705

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HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY PLANNED

Khartoum SUNA in English No 4366, 10 Jan 83 p 9

[Article: "Dr Al-Shawi Calls for Unified High Education Strategy"]

[Text] Khartoum, Jan. 10, (SUNA)--The Secretary-General of the Council of Arab Universities Union, Dr Sultan Al-Shawi, said Arab universities suffered from high education problems, and called for a unified Arab strategy for the solution of these problems.

The high education in Arab universities did not cope with the development that took place in this sphere, especially after the enlargement in the number of students, Al-Shawi said.

He added that, the wide development activity in the Arab World called for new ways and methods of high education. The problems of high education could only be solved by a broad and unified Arab vision, and that required coordination between Arab universities, he said to SUNA.

Most of the studying curricula in Arab universities are imported from abroad and there were attempts from some universities to reconsider them to be convenient to the Arab environment, Al-Shawi said.

The Council, he said, had started the establishment of an atlas institution for the Arab World and it would be financed by Arab corporations and executed by Arab Scientists. A centre for high education researches for the Arab World is under execution, Al-Shawi said.

Al-Shawi, who is visiting the Sudan to attend the meeting of the Council of Arab Universities Union, said the six universities of the Arab occupied lands, were taking part in the activities of the Union, and they had raised a memo about their problems with the Israeli authorities.

The Union is now considering the memo, Al-Shawi concluded.

CSO: 4500/63

MAURITANIA-MALI JOINT STATEMENT ON BORDER TALKS

LD280006 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 27 Jan 83

[Text] The Mauritanian and Malian delegations this evening ended talks on border issues between the two fraternal countries. A joint statement was issued tonight on the talks:

At the invitation of member of the military committee for national salvation and minister of the interior, Lt Col Ahmedou Abdallah, a delegation representing the fraternal Malian Republic headed by the Malian minister of the interior, Lt Col Abderhamane Maiga, paid a visit to our country from 21 to 27 January 1983.

The visit falls within the framework of periodic meetings between Malian and Mauritanian officials. The visit provided an opportunity for the exchange of views about ways of bolstering relations between the Mauritanian and Malian leaderships and between the administrative authorities in the border provinces of both countries.

The two delegations would like to register their satisfaction at the spirit of frankness and understanding that characterized their talks, particularly regarding the border issues.

In view of the geographic, historical and economic bonds that tie the two countries together, the two sides pledged to continue to work for the bolstering and safeguarding of these bonds.

The Malian delegation visited the main landmarks of Nouakchott and Nouadibu. During the visit, the Malian delegation studied the industrial achievements made by the Mauritanian delegation under the guidance of its enlightened leadership.

The Malian delegation expresses its pleasure at the complete welcome it received during its stay and wishes to offer warm congratulations to the Mauritanian authorities for this.

The Malian minister invited his Mauritanian counterpart to visit Mali. The invitation was accepted and its date will be fixed through diplomatic channels.

TRADE, COOPERATION PROTOCOL SIGNED WITH TURKEY

JN261931 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1725 GMT 26 Jan 83

[Text] Khartoum, 26 Jan (SUNA)--Sudan and Turkey signed a protocol of trade and economic cooperation at the Ministry of Cooperation, Commerce and Supply this morning. Ahmad Salim Ahmad, minister of cooperation, commerce and supply, signed for the Sudanese side and the Turkish minister of state for foreign economic affairs signed for Turkey.

Ahmad Salim Ahmad praised the efforts that led to the signing of the protocol. He said this will extend the scope of cooperation between the two countries. He added: We will endeavor to overcome all the obstacles that hamper the expansion of trade and economic cooperation between Sudan and Turkey. He said that he hopes that the forthcoming months will witness marked progress in economic and trade relations between the two countries.

The Turkish minister of state for foreign economic affairs affirmed that Turkey is most willing to provide Sudan with all the help it needs. He said he hoped Turkey would play a positive role in the Sudanese development plan. At the conclusion of his statement, he praised the government and people of Sudan for their hospitality and the cooperation which the Turkish committee received which helped make its mission a success.

SUNA learned that within the framework of the protocol agreement was reached on several topics discussed during the joint committee meetings. The Sudanese side expressed a desire to import tractors, buses and flour from Turkey with the provision of credit facilities. The Turkish side promised to discuss this matter. The issue of training was also discussed, and it was agreed that Turkey would provide Sudan with 12 scholarships at Turkish universities. The Turkish side promised to look into the Sudanese proposals regarding the demands for training in the fields of agriculture, irrigation, energy and natural resources.

According to the protocol the two sides reviewed the issue of setting up joint projects in various fields. It was also agreed to send a team of Turkish experts to Sudan later to follow up on what was agreed during the joint committees meetings. The two sides agreed to hold the joint committee's second meeting in Ankara in the first half of next year.

The Turkish minister will leave Khartoum for home tomorrow morning while members of the Turkish delegation, which comprises 15 persons, will continue their visit to the country until 28 January. Tomorrow, they will attend the opening session of Khartoum's sixth international fair in which Turkey is taking part. They will also meet with Sudanese businessmen and industrialists and those associated with the cotton and gum Arabic companies and the Sudan Oilseed Company.

Sudan and Turkey signed a trade agreement in 1980.

CSO: 4500/72

PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NOTED

Khartoum SUNA in English No 4365, 9 Jan 83 pp 7-9

[Text] Khartoum, Jan 9 (SUNA)--SSU President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has set up the SSU Central Leadership and Executive Office as follows:

Central Leaderships:

1. SSU president.
 2. Members to be elected by the National Congress through regional electoral colleges. The SSU president will specify their number.
 3. Holders of constitutional posts:
 - a. Vice presidents
 - b. People's assembly speaker
 - c. Regional SSU secretaries
 4. Members of the Central Leadership Executive Bureau.
 5. Representatives of regular forces to be announced by the SSU president later on.
 6. Representatives of Alliance Forces and popular organizations. The president will announce their number later on. They will then be elected by organizations central committees.
2. Executive Bureau:
- I. Formed as follows:
 - A. SSU president.
 - B. Members to be determined and chosen by the SSU president. They would be approved by the central leadership.
 - C. Members whose number will be determined by the president and will be elected by the central leadership from a list to be nominated by the SSU president.

II. The SSU president will issue working system and regulations of the executive buruea. He will also specify committees, administrations and offices affiliated to it.

3. The articles 16-17-18 of the SSU basic rules are replaced by:

I. Prerogatives of the Central Leadership:

- A. Implementation and follow up of the National Congress resolutions.
- B. Decision-making on high policies of the SSU that occur between the National Congress sessions.
- C. Leading, directing and moving national action and security Alliance Forces support to the 3d term of office programme and objectives.
- D. Endorsing the election of the executive bureau members.
- E. Finding means and regulations capable of guaranteeing ideal implementation of the SSU working systems.
- F. The central leadership should lay down foundations of its work. It should also form its specialized subcommittees in accordance with its prerogatives and tasks.

II. Prerogatives of the Executive Office:

- A. Implementation and follow-up of resolutions and directives of the central leadership.
- B. Leading work of specialized subcommittees.
- C. Leading daily work of the SSU.
- D. Supervising the SSU administrative and financial work. It also supervises work of the SSU Centre technical committees.

CSO: 4500/65

TRANSPORTATION, TELECOMMUNICATION PROJECTS, PROBLEMS CITED

Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic No 2846, 27 Dec 82 pp 27-29

[Article by 'Izzah Nasr: "Movement Between Egypt and Sudan Is First Step on Path of Integration; 500-Kilometer Railroad Line Between Two Countries Costing 300 Million Pounds; Microwave Project Between Cairo and Khartoum and Radio and Television Channels"]

[Text] One of the bonds that enhance the integration process between Egypt and Sudan and leads to merger between the two countries lies in facilitating the means of rapid communication and transportation in order to achieve integration in this sphere and to provide the means of travel between Cairo and Khartoum and vice versa.

The integration steps began in 1974 but have not taken the right path for several reasons, the most important being financing.

Now, what are the steps being taken to achieve integration in the sphere of communication between Egypt and Sudan, what are the obstacles impeding the implementation of these steps and how can they be overcome?

In the sphere of river transportation, a joint Egyptian-Sudanese commission was formed under the name of the Nile Valley River Transportation Commission with a capital of 5 million pounds for the transportation of passengers and goods in the integration area.

There are at present endeavors to bolster the commission, in the wake of conclusion of the charter [not further specified], through a contract with the German Development Bank to supply the commission with 2 boats, each with a capacity of 500 passengers and with a total cost of 20 million Deutschemarks, to operate in the area between Wadi Halfa and Sudan.

As for maritime transportation, an agreement had been signed to exchange goods between Port Sudan and Suez. But the cooperation between the two companies has not been complete because of financial difficulties.

Now that the document has been signed by the two countries, the two companies are studying the means to overcome these difficulties and to exert efforts to expand trade exchange through establishing unloading and shipping fares and by employing workers from both countries to enhance the work and to reduce the unloading time with the aim of creating liquidity because financing is the root of the problem.

Land Route and Additional Channels

Land routes are the most important and easiest means of transportation between the two countries. The shortest highway in the integration area is the section located within the Egyptian borders, with a length of nearly 320 kilometers. This stretch consists of 4 stages:

The first begins in Aswan and extends for 50 kilometers.

The second begins at kilometer 50 and extends to kilometer 150. So far, 20 percent of this stage has been completed and the work will be finished by the end of 1983.

The third stage begins at kilometer 150 and extends to kilometer 220 at the intersection of the city of Abu Sunbul. All the preparations concerning the executing company have been made and work was started last June. This stage is expected to be completed in early 1984.

The fourth stage begins at the point where stage two ends and extends to kilometer 320. Companies will be invited to make their bids to implement this stage in preparation for beginning construction immediately.

Within the Sudanese borders, the highway is 947 kilometers long. It is not completely paved and parts of it will be repaired without being asphalted because of the enormous sums which the asphaltting operations will cost.

Sudan's roads are dirt roads because of the geological nature of the soil which makes it possible to use the roads without asphaltting. The work on the parts to be asphalted will be carried out in cooperation with an Egyptian-Sudanese work team comprised of engineers and technicians.

In the sphere of telecommunications, contacts take place via the scattered-waves network between Aswan and Wadi Halfa. But this network is experiencing a shortage of spareparts for the station in Wadi Halfa and in the ground station for satellite communications which links Wadi Halfa with Khartoum.

To insure easy communications between the two parts of the Nile Valley, the Sudanese side is taking the steps to acquire additional channels besides the present channels in Umm Harraz. The new channels will amount to 24 channels to be added to the 3 existing channels between Cairo and Sudan. Automatic international telephone centers will also be established in each of Cairo and Khartoum.

300 Million Pounds for Railroad Line

In an interview with Sulayman Mutawalli, the minister of transportation, communications and maritime transport, the minister has answered a number of questions concerning the integration projects with Sudan.

Answering a question on the importance of railroads to trade and to transporting goods and passengers between Egypt and Sudan, the minister said:

Studies are underway on linking the railroad between Sudan and Egypt in the area between Aswan and the town of Abu Hamad. The route has been studied on the spot and engineering studies have also been carried out. The costs have been estimated at 300 million pounds and the line's length is nearly 500 kilometers.

As a first stage, each of the two railroad lines in each of Cairo and Khartoum will maintain their present width. At the end of the Egyptian line, goods will be moved by special railroad cars to the beginning of the Sudanese railroad line.

The construction of this line requires broadening the line within Sudan from the end of the abovementioned junction to Khartoum so that the line may have the right width and may be compatible with the existing junction.

The minister added: This means that a train will be able to proceed from Cairo to Khartoum without changing its railroad line.

As for the cost, it is not small and requires financing that exceeds what we can provide in the Egyptian and Sudanese budgets. This is why it is necessary to contact the Arab and international funds.

In addition to the communication between the two countries which the railroad will achieve, the line will also be a means to serve a number of African countries in the spheres of commerce and transportation. It can also constitute a part of an international railroad in the future.

Microwave Between Cairo and Khartoum

On the inadequacy of the artificial satellite network and the means to overcome it, the minister of transport and communications said: There were 3 circuits for communications between Egypt and Sudan which were increased last month to 19 circuits. Some of them are through artificial satellites. A part of the rest is via scattered waves between Aswan and Wadi Halfa and the other part is via Saudi Arabia.

As a result of this improvement, the communication traffic last month rose by 50 percent over the preceding month. The communications will rise further with improved service to keep up with the circuits.

Engineer Sulayman Mutawalli added: This is a temporary solution. However, there is a permanent solution embodied in establishing a microwave project between Cairo and Khartoum capable of accommodating a number of telephone circuits and a number of radio and television channels and of linking the two countries properly insofar as communications, information and other activities are concerned.

This project is under study at present and will be implemented as soon as the study is prepared. It relies fundamentally on direct financing and its costs are estimated at 35 million pounds which will be supplied by the Integration Fund.

Answering a question on the ability of the ordinary Cairo citizen to contact Khartoum directly, the minister said: A direct telephone line between Cairo and Khartoum will be put into operation. This line requires no financial appropriations, is impeded by no obstacles and will be completed shortly. However, the agreement with the Sudanese side has not been completed yet.

Maritime Line at Beginning of January

My interview with Engineer Mutawalli Sulayman, the minister of transport and communications, then turned to the new road projects and to the developments in this regard.

The minister said: There are old studies in this regard and new studies have developed. We have actually begun asphaltting sections of the road located within the Egyptian borders. Other sections, estimated at nearly 100 kilometers and extending to Wadi Halfa, are still being asphalted and (will be put into use) at the end of next year. An Egyptian-Sudanese work team will examine the road within the Sudanese borders and determine which sections of this road are unsuitable. The road will be then prepared as a first stage and then asphalted in the second stage. We will thus make it available for passenger and trade traffic.

At the same time, the minister added, we will asphalt the highway along the Red Sea, beginning in the area near Berenice and proceeding in the direction of Port Sudan, with a total length of 650 kilometers. The Ministry of Petroleum will undertake this task. The aim of this highway is to boost commercial traffic in the eastern area. Moreover, it will be possible to run a bus route between Cairo and Khartoum in the future.

On the private sector's participation in implementing these projects, the minister said: There is nothing to prevent the private sector from implementing any of these projects. The door is open for cooperation with the public agencies because the integration projects in the sphere of transportation require major efforts.

He added: The sphere of transportation is not confined to these roads and means. Regarding maritime transportation, it has been agreed to operate a line between Suez and Port Sudan. This line will begin operating at the beginning of next January and the trip, run by luxury boats, will take 48 hours. For the first time, there are boats to transport passengers between the two countries comfortably. This stage will be the beginning for other stages.

In the next stage, projects will be set up to transport goods between the two countries. These projects will be undertaken by the Egyptian-Sudanese firm under the supervision of the Sudanese side.

Engineer Sulayman Mutawalli added: One of the fastest means of transportation between the two countries is air travel. The inclination to bolster the airlines network linking Egypt with Sudan is very essential, especially since conclusion of the charter.

Therefore, the minister says, thought must be given to setting up a joint operational fund link the two capitals on the one hand and to link each capital with the internal cities on the other hand.

It is also necessary in the future to unify the type of aircraft used in both countries so as to make use of the training available and to open wide the doors of aviation training for the Sudanese.

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CSO: 4504/157

BRIEFS

CULTURAL INTEGRATION--Khartoum, Jan 4 (SUNA)--Guidance and Information Minister Mohammad 'Uthman Abu-Saq, Monday discussed media integration between Egypt and Sudan with Abu-Bakr 'Uthman Mohammad Salih, the secretary-general of the High Council for Integration, 'Abd-al-Sattar Amin, the council's assistant secretary-general, and Aldu Ago, the chairman of Integration Committee at the People's Assembly. The meeting also discussed means of executing cultural cooperation protocol between the two countries, signed during the visit of the minister to Cairo recently. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4360, 4 Jan 83 p 3]

SUDANESE FORCES LEAVE--Khartoum, Jan 3 (SUNA)--Contingents of troops from the People's Armed Forces left for Iraq last week to fight alongside the Iraqi forces in compliance with the decision of the political leadership and in implementation of the Arab League and the Fez Arab Summit resolutions. Deputy commander-in-chief of the People's Armed Forces Abd-al-Rahman Hasan Siwar al-Dahab, commander of the operations staff Tawfiq Salih Abu-Daduk, senior army officers and soldiers saw the fighters off when leaving the country. General Siwar al-Dahab told his troops that when they defend an Arab territory they reaffirm Sudan's national commitment to the causes of the Arab nation. He urged them to become good representatives of their country and to reflect Sudan's commitment towards the Arab cause. In Baghdad senior commanders of the Iraq Armed Forces received the Sudanese forces at an Iraqi airbase. The Sudanese troops began preparations for assuming tasks to be assigned to them. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4359, 3 Jan 83 p 6]

AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS NOTED--Khartoum, Jan 2 (SUNA)--The Board of the Sudanese-Egyptian Company for Agricultural Integration has resolved to increase the area of its scheme in al-Damazin to 70,000 feddans for 1983/84 season, against 55,000 feddans in the current season, SUNA learned. At its meetings here and in the scheme's site, during the period Dec 18-24, the board reviewed the progress of the harvest operations of the cotton, dura, soya beans and sesame crops in the scheme, which are anticipated to give high productivity rates this season. Agriculture and Irrigation Minister Dr Uthman abd-al-Rahman Hakim headed the Sudanese side to the meetings. The Egyptian side was headed by Dr Abd-al-Hamed Abu-Saba, board chairman of Al-Buhayrah Company, Alexandria. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4358, 2 Jan 83 p 2]

EDUCATIONAL CENTERS ESTABLISHED--Khartoum, Jan 2 (SUNA)--Work on the integrated rural educational centres constructions would be finished during the coming five months, said authoritative sources at the World Bank Educational Projects Administration. 14 centres out of a total of 24 centers are being built in the Southern Region. The remainder is distributed over the rest of the Sudanese regions. To each centre is attached a farm, a workshop and medical centre. The centres teach elementary school syllabuses and are aimed at upgrading environmental handicrafts. They are also concerned with adult education and ill-literacy eradication. Bakht al-Rawdah Institute will start training three teachers for each centre as from this month. The centres are being built as part of the second project programme whose agreement was signed in May 1975. The programme costs \$18.9 million. The World Bank will pay \$10 million, the Sudan government \$8.3 million and the rest will be paid by Federal Germany. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4358, 2 Jan 83 p 3]

POWER PROJECT NOTED--Madani, Jan 6 (SUNA)--Two of the four turbines delivered for Khartoum North and Burri thermal stations crossed Hantub bridge yesterday. The delivery of the turbines was delayed for several months due to technical transportation difficulties across existing bridges along Khartoum-Port Sudan highway. The turbines could now reach their sites following the strengthening of some bridges which began last September and ended in December. The four turbines constitute the third power project which is financed by the British government to the cost of 23 million sterlings. The project executive director announced that the two turbines will be operated next May and the remaining turbines will be operational by June and July. The 40-megawatt project will raise the capacity of Khartoum North and Burri stations and will consequently contribute to solving power shortage during summer. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4362, 6 Jan 83 p 4]

AL-SHARIQAH-SUDAN COOPERATION NOTED--Khartoum, Jan 12 (SUNA)--First Vice President 'Umar Muhammad al-Tayyid received yesterday H.H. Shaykh Faysal Ibn Khalid al-Qasimy the representative of al-Sharigah Emirate Ruler. Following the meeting Shaykh Faysal told SUNA that he communicated to the vice president a verbal message from al-Sharigah Ruler H.H. Sultan Ibn Muhammad al-Qasimy to President Numayri on bilateral relations and mutual cooperation. He added that al-Tayyib extended an invitation to al-Sharigah Ruler to visit Sudan and expressed an invitation to al-Sharigah for financing construction of al-Sharigah Conference Hall at the Institute of African and Asian Studies (IAAS), University of Khartoum. The delegation is here to attend the laying down of the foundation stone of al-Sharigah Hall at the (IAAS). Meanwhile, SUNA learned that al-Sharigah Ruler had financially helped the Organization of Islamic Da'wa in executing one of its projects in the Sudan and extended technical aid to the disabled association. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4368, 12 Jan 83 p 3]

SUGAR PRODUCTION NOTED--Kosti, Jan 11 (SUNA)--The production season of Assa-laya Sugar Factory started early this week. Factory sources say the daily output now totals 2,000 bags of sugar to be raised to 4,000 bags when all harvest workers arrive in the field. The factory's production this season is expected to reach 30,000 tons, i.e. 300,000 bags of sugar, SUNA learned. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in English No 4367, 11 Jan 83 p 2]

BUDGET ALLOCATIONS FOR 1983 DETAILED

Tunis DIALOGUE in French No 436, 10 Jan 83 pp 29-40

[Article by Mustapha Ben Messaoud: "How the State Will Spend Its 1983 Budget Funds"]

[Text] After the conclusion of the budget debates and the approval of the 1983 state budget by the Chamber of Deputies on Friday, 31 December, DIALOGUE, following its custom, is bringing to the attention of its readers the outline, particularly in figures, of this budget with its two aspects: operational and equipment funds.

For 1983, the administrative and investment expenditures of the state will come to 1,753,000,000 dinars as compared to 1,521,000,000 for the 1982 fiscal period, an increase of 232,000,000 dinars, or 15.2 percent. It should be noted that this rate of increase falls below the average rate established in the provisions of the Sixth Plan (1982-1986).

For the operational budget, the proposed allocations will total 954 million dinars, representing an increase of 103 million, or 12.1 percent. The rate of increase in the operational budget during the preceding fiscal year was 26.6 percent, which reveals a real reduction in expenditures resulting from the difficulties experienced in the course of 1982.

The following table summarizes this budget development (in millions of dinars).

Allocation	1982		1983	
	Value	Increase	Value	Increase
Administrative expenditures	727.5	+28.1%	820.0	+13.9%
Interest on the debt	86.5	+33.7%	105.0	+21.4%
General compensation fund	37.0	--	20.0	--
Total	851.0	+26.6%	954.0	+12.1%

Where the equipment budget is concerned, it will come to 799 million dinars for the 1983 budget year, as compared to 670 million dinars during the 1982 fiscal year, showing an increase of 129 million dinars, or 19.3 percent. Thus the development budget will show a more rapid increase than the operational budget (19.3 percent compared to 12.1 percent).

(in millions of dinars)

Allocations	Estimates		Absolute Variation	
	1982	1983	Absolutes	Percentage
Direct investments	308.0	357.4	+49.4	+16.0
Financial operations	232.0	270.6	+38.6	+16.0
Repayment of the public debt	<u>130.0</u>	<u>171.0</u>	<u>+41.0</u>	+31.5
Total	670.0	799.0	+129.0	+19.3

It should be noted that the "direct investments" allocation will go to finance the state effort in the fields of national defense, agriculture, equipment, rural development and public health. Financial operations, for their part, cover capital contributions in the industrial sector (construction materials, textiles, mechanical engineering, etc.) and loans to the state for the purpose of investment in development projects.

Presidency of the Republic--Operational Budget

1983--3,400,000 dinars; 1982--3,236,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +164,000; percentage variation-- +5 percent.

The operational budget of the Presidency of the Republic for the 1983 fiscal year will total 3.4 million dinars, an increase of 164,000 dinars or 5 percent over the preceding fiscal period. This increase is less than that for the 1982 budget year, which came to 280,000 dinars.

A study of the items in this budget reveals that the largest expenditures have to do with the direct and indirect intervention of the state in the social and cultural areas, in the amount of 1,552,000 dinars, sovereign expenditures totaling 824,000 dinars, and wage payments for the personnel totaling 834,000 dinars. Expenditures on equipment and reimbursement of transportation costs, for their part, will come to 190,000 dinars.

Presidency of the Republic--Equipment Budget

1983--600,000 dinars; 1982--600,000 dinars; absolute variation--none; percentage variation--none.

The equipment budget of the Presidency of the Republic for the 1983 fiscal year was established, as last year, at 600,000 dinars, including 510,000 for projects under way and 90,000 for new projects.

The projects in progress include in particular the presidential residences, accounting for 430,000 dinars, including 200,000 for the maintenance of the presidential palace in Carthage and 100,000 for the modernization of the Essaada Palace in La Marsa.

Where new projects are concerned, they involve basically the purchase of vehicles at a cost of 40,000 dinars, and the construction of the statue of President Bourguiba in Tataouine, costing 50,000 dinars.

It should be noted that the 3 million dinars allocated to the Presidency of the Republic within the framework of the Sixth Plan (1982-1986) will make it possible to finance the balance of the projects being completed (1,580,000 dinars), on the one hand, and the new projects (1,420,000 dinars), on the other.

Chamber of Deputies--Operational Budget

1983--1,500,000 dinars; 1982--1,373,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +127,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +9 percent.

The operational budget of the Chamber of Deputies will come to 1.5 million dinars for 1983, representing an increase of 127,000 dinars, or 9 percent, over 1982. This increase, which is less than that which occurred the preceding year (+20.1 percent), will go mainly to cover adjustment operations based on need (69,750 dinars), and to a lesser extent new measures (57,250 dinars).

A study of the items in this budget shows that the largest expenditures have to do with the allowances granted to the president and the members of the Chamber of Deputies, totaling 872,000 dinars, down 18,000 from the figure in the 1982 budget.

The other part of this budget is reserved for wage payments, totaling 342,000 dinars, expenditures on equipment and administrative management (179,000 dinars), and the miscellaneous expenditures for the Chamber of Deputies (107,000 dinars). It should be noted that the expenditures on equipment and administrative management should show an increase of 55,000 dinars over the 1982 fiscal period.

Chamber of Deputies--Equipment Budget

1983--180,000 dinars; 1982--180,000 dinars; absolute variation--none; percentage variation--none.

The equipment budget of the Chamber of Deputies was established at 180,000 dinars, representing no change from the preceding year. This credit will go to finance the projects under way, in the amount of 60,000 dinars, and new projects, in the amount of 120,000 dinars.

The projects in progress will involve basically the improvement and equipping of the plenary sessions hall (50,000 dinars) and the completion of the construction of a second story for the Chamber of Deputies premises (10,000 dinars). The new projects, for their part, will include the building of a new Chamber of Deputies building (studies and purchase of land) in the amount of 50,000 dinars, the building of a printing facility for 50,000 dinars, and the purchase of vehicles costing 20,000 dinars.

Office of the Prime Minister--Operational Budget

1983--11,352,000 dinars; 1982--9,837,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +1,515,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +15.4 percent.

The draft operational budget for the Office of the Prime Minister for 1983 comes to a total of 11,352,000 dinars, showing an increase of 1,515,000 dinars, or 15.4 percent, over the 1982 budget.

This increase, which again falls below that of last year (+39.5 percent) will go to finance adjustment operations based on need, in the amount of 512,000 dinars, and new measures, in the amount of 1,003,000 dinars. The breakdown of this budget into expenditure items shows that the largest expenditures pertain first of all to wage allocations to other than civil service personnel, in the amount of 3,197,000 dinars, the greater part of which will go to pay the allowances of religious representatives, and secondly, the administrative costs of the public establishments coming under this department (National School of Administration, Economic and Social Council, and the Administrative Court), in the amount of 3,971,000 dinars. The rest of the department's current expenditures will go to pay the allowances and wage total for the department, in the amount of 2,164,000 dinars, expenditures on equipment and reimbursement of transportation costs, in the amount of 1,045,000 dinars, and finally, direct and indirect activities in the social, economic and cultural sectors, in the amount of 1,875,000 dinars.

Office of the Prime Minister--Equipment Budget

1983--200,000 dinars; 1982--286,000 dinars; absolute variation-- -86,000 dinars; percentage variation-- -30 percent.

For 1983, the equipment budget for the Office of the Prime Minister was established at 200,000 dinars, including 105,000 dinars for projects under way and 95,000 for new projects. A comparison of this credit with that in 1982 reveals a drop of 86,000 dinars, or 30 percent. Where direct department investments are concerned, they will go to finance administrative construction (90,000 dinars), including in particular the continuation of the building of a boarding facility for girls at the National School of Administration, the building of a garage for the vehicles of said department, the construction of additional stories at the premises of the Economic and Social Council, and the improvement of the electrical network at the Office of the Prime Minister. Provisions also cover the purchase of vehicles and a minibus. As to the financial operations, they pertain to the investments of the National Data Processing Center. This establishment will spend 264,000 dinars in the course of 1983, including 153,000 for repayment of the French credit which enabled the center to purchase data processing equipment.

Ministry of Justice--Operational Budget

1983--10,700,000 dinars; 1982--9,544,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +1,156,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +12.12 percent.

The operational budget for the Ministry of Justice will involve an allocation for the 1983 fiscal year of 10,700,000 dinars as compared to 9,544,000 dinars for the preceding year, representing an increase of 12.12 percent, or 1,156,000 dinars. This increase falls below that seen in the course of the

1982 budget year (+22.3 percent), and will include 896,000 dinars for adjustment operations based on need, and 260,000 dinars for new measures.

A breakdown of this budget by expenditure item shows that the largest expense will be the wage total for overall personnel (9,326,000 dinars, or more than 87 percent of the whole for Title I for the Department of Justice). The balance of the current expenditures will include payment for equipment purchases (1,240,000 dinars), transportation (102,000 dinars), and finally, direct and indirect state intervention in the social and cultural sectors (32,000 dinars).

Ministry of Justice--Equipment Budget

1983--1,200,000 dinars; 1982--1,291,000 dinars; absolute variation-- -91,000 dinars; percentage variation-- -7.0 percent.

The equipment budget for the Ministry of Justice for the 1983 fiscal year will come to only 1.2 million dinars, as compared to 1,291,000 dinars for the preceding year, representing a decline of 91,000 dinars, or 7 percent. This budget will go to pay for the projects under way, in the amount of 1,020,000 dinars, and new projects, in the amount of 180,000 dinars. The projects under way include in particular the enlargement of the Palace of Justice in Tunis, the equipping of court buildings and the construction of new ones.

As to the new projects, they include the equipping of court buildings, computerization of the department and the purchase of vehicles.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs--Operational Budget

1983--21,300,000 dinars; 1982--18,925,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +2,375,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +12.6 percent.

The operational budget for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the 1983 fiscal year was established at 21.3 million dinars, showing an increase of 2,375,000 dinars or 12.6 percent. This increase, which falls below that seen during the 1982 budget year (+25.7 percent), will be allocated to adjustment operations based on need, in the amount of 2,235,000 dinars, and new measures, in the amount of 140,000 dinars. As happens every year, the lion's share of this budget goes to our embassies abroad (14,452,000 dinars, or 68 percent of the total current expenditures of the department, up 12.7 percent over 1981). The balance of the budget will go to pay wages and allowances for all of the ministry personnel living in Tunisia (2,554,000 dinars, up about 12 percent over 1981), the purchase of equipment and the reimbursement of transportation costs (1,833,000 dinars, up 16 percent over 1981), and, finally, to cover the indirect activities of the state in the social and cultural sectors (45,000 million dinars [sic], representing an increase of 15.4 percent), and above all, financial participation in international organizations (2,416,000 dinars, up 9.7 percent over 1981).

Ministry of Foreign Affairs--Equipment Budget

1983--1,500,000 dinars; 1982--1,794,700 dinars; absolute variation-- -294,700 dinars; percentage variation-- -16.4 percent.

The draft equipment budget for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the 1983 fiscal year calls for payment credits totaling 1.5 million dinars, down 294,700 dinars, or 16.4 percent, from the 1982 figure.

Covering solely new projects, this budget will go in large part to the financing of new construction, in the amount of 1,330,000 dinars, while the balance, 170,000 dinars, will go for the purchase of vehicles for the department. The construction projects include the building of the premises for our embassy in Saudi Arabia, more specifically in Riyadh (300,000 dinars out of an overall sum of 2.7 million dinars), the modernization and equipping of embassies (360,000 dinars), the modernization and equipping of the central departmental administration, in the amount of 100,000 dinars, and various and unforeseen operations, in the amount of 165,000 dinars. Where the purchase of vehicles is concerned, this has to do in large part with the embassies (150,000 dinars), with the balance for the central administration (20,000 dinars).

Ministry of Interior--Operational Budget

1983--79,500,000 dinars; 1982--73,176,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +6,324,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +8.6 percent.

The operational budget for the Ministry of Interior for the year 1983 was established at 79.5 million dinars, up 6,324,000 dinars, or 8.6 percent, over the 1982 budget.

This increase, which falls below that seen in the course of the 1982 budget year (+28.7 percent), will go to cover adjustment operations based on need, in the amount of 5,522,225 dinars (87.3 percent), and for new measures, in the amount of 801,775 dinars.

A breakdown of this budget by expenditure item shows that essentially, the funds in Title I for this department will go to cover the wage total for the personnel, which will come to 62,840,900 dinars (79 percent of the total) in 1983, up 4.4 percent over the 1982 credit. The balance of the expenditures have to do with purchases of equipment and reimbursement for transportation costs (13,248,500 dinars, up 31.4 percent over the 1982 figures), administrative allocations for public establishments (3.2 million dinars, representing a 17.4 percent increase), and, finally, direct state intervention in the social and cultural sectors.

Ministry of Interior--Equipment Budget

1983--9,800,000 dinars; 1982--9,000,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +800,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +8.9 percent.

For the 1983 fiscal year, Title II for the Ministry of Interior will total 9.8 million dinars, including 6.8 million dinars for projects under way and 3 million dinars for new projects.

A comparison of this budget to that for the preceding year reveals an increase of 8.9 percent, representing 800,000 dinars. Among the projects under way, the construction of a mechanical workshop, the expansion of the National Guard School in Bir Bouregba, the construction of new headquarters for the governorates of Nabeul and Mahdia, the construction of a building for the National Security Administration in Tunis, the building of a number of frontier centers, the purchase of housing, the expansion of the headquarters of the governorate of Monastir, etc., could be mentioned.

As to new projects, they include the addition of cells at the prisons, the modernization of administrative buildings and prisons, the building of two new police headquarters buildings and the modernization of the frontier stations.

Ministry of National Defense--Operational Budget

1983--81,600,000 dinars; 1982--77,500,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +4,500,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +5.3 percent.

The operational budget for the Ministry of National Defense for the year 1983 will total 81.6 million dinars, up 4.1 million dinars, or 5.3 percent, over the preceding budget period. This increase, far smaller than that in 1982 (+27.2 percent), will go to cover adjustment operations based on need, in the amount of 2,743,500 dinars, and new measures, in the amount of 1,356,500 dinars.

A breakdown of this budget by expenditure item shows that the wage total for the various categories of personnel alone takes up about 72 percent of the total for Title I for this department, or 58,559,000 dinars, up 7.4 percent over 1982. The balance of the current expenditures have to do in particular with purchases of equipment and reimbursement for transportation costs (20,455,000 dinars, up 0.5 percent over 1982), direct and indirect state intervention in the social and cultural sectors (1,856,000 dinars, down 0.7 percent from 1982), and lastly, allocations for the administration of public establishments (730,000 dinars).

Ministry of National Defense--Equipment Budget

1983--76,750,000 dinars; 1982--71,000,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +5,750,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +8.1 percent.

For the 1983 fiscal year, the equipment budget for the Ministry of National Defense will total 76,750,000 dinars, including 63,377,000 dinars for projects under way and 13,373,000 dinars for new projects.

A comparison of this budget with that for 1982 reveals an increase of 5,750,000 dinars, or 8.1 percent. It should be noted that in the course of

the 1982 budget year, there was an increase of 28.4 million dinars, or 66.7 percent, over the preceding year for Title II for this department.

Where construction is concerned, this department will spend an allocation of 8.2 million dinars for projects in progress and 150,000 dinars for new projects.

Where equipment is concerned, the department will commit a total of 55,177 dinars for projects in progress and 13,223,000 dinars for new projects.

Ministry of Finance and Plan--Operational Budget

1983--27,700,000 dinars; 1982--25,091,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +2,609,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +10.4 percent.

The management allocation for the Ministry of Finance and Plan administration for 1983 was established at 27.7 million dinars, up 10.4 percent, representing 2,609,000 dinars, over the figure for the preceding budget year. This increase, which falls below that seen in 1982 (plus 29.4 percent), will go to cover adjustment operations based on need, in the amount of 2,569,000 dinars, and new measures, in the amount of 40,000.

A breakdown of this budget by expenditure item shows that the wage mass is the largest, accounting for 75.6 percent of all the department's current expenditures (20,932,000 dinars).

--Interest on the public debt: for the 1983 fiscal year, interest on the public debt will total 105 million dinars, up 18.5 million dinars, or 21.4 percent, over 1982.

--General expenditures: this item will total 41.1 million dinars during the 1983 fiscal year, up more than 100 percent over 1982.

--Title I contribution to Title II: for the 1983 fiscal year, budget savings should come to 466 million dinars, up 70 million, or 17.6 percent, over 1982.

Ministry of Finance and Plan--Equipment Budget

1983--62,777,000 dinars; 1982--59,916,511 dinars; absolute variation-- +2,860,489 dinars; percentage variation-- +4.8 percent.

For the 1983 fiscal year, the equipment budget of the Ministry of Finance and Plan will total 62,770,000 dinars, including 37,695,000 dinars for direct investments, and 25,082,000 dinars for financial operations.

A comparison of this budget to that for 1982 reveals an increase of 2,860,489 dinars, or 4.8 percent.

Where direct investments are concerned, they include mainly the item "Rural Development Program," for which there is an allocation of 34 million dinars for 1983, up 11.5 percent over 1982, and to a lesser extent, credit for

various projects (3,695,000 dinars, up 9.6 percent over 1982). Among the various projects to be carried out by this department, the construction of the headquarters of the ministry, modernization of department buildings and the purchase of communications equipment for the customs service might be mentioned. As to financial operations, they will pertain to all the establishments under the jurisdiction of this department, including, in particular, the BTKD [Tunisian-Kuwaiti Development Bank] (4,782,000 dinars), the STUSID (4,763,000), the National Agricultural Development Bank (5 million dinars), the BCMA [Arab Maghreb Cooperation Bank] (3 million dinars), etc.

Ministry of National Economy--Operational Budget

1983--11,900,000 dinars; 1982--10,753,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +1,147,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +10.6 percent.

For the 1983 fiscal year, the operational budget for the Ministry of National Economy will total 11.9 million dinars, up 1,147,000 dinars, or 10.6 percent, over the preceding year.

A breakdown of this budget by expenditure item shows that direct and indirect state intervention in the economic sector accounts for the lion's share (73 percent). For the 1983 fiscal year, this item will total 8,687,000 dinars, up 14.4 percent over 1982. Next in importance are departmental expenditures as such, falling below the wage total (2,629,000 dinars, or +1.3 percent) and purchases of equipment and reimbursement of transportation costs (584,000 dinars, up 3.2 percent over 1982).

In addition, this department administers the General Compensation Fund (CGC), to which it will allocate a subsidy of 20 million dinars for the 1983 fiscal year.

This subsidy is reduced by about 46 percent, or 17 million dinars, from the 1982 figure.

Ministry of National Economy--Equipment Budget

1983--77,501,000 dinars; 1982--65,533,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +11,968,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +18.3 percent.

The equipment budget for the Ministry of National Economy for the year 1983 will total 77.5 million dinars, including 76,901,000 for financial operations and 600,000 for direct investments. This budget is up about 12 million dinars, or 18.3 percent, over 1982.

Where direct investments are concerned, the 600,000 dinars will go in particular to continuing the work on the following projects: modernization of the ministry headquarters, participation by the Central Laboratory in U.N. projects, the building of regional premises in Kasserine, the purchase of land, the purchase of vehicles, and new projects. Mention might be made of Tunisian participation in the new energy sources project, replacement of

Central Laboratory equipment and various construction, as well as the purchase of vehicles.

Where financial operations are concerned, this category will cover the financing of participation in the capital of the CPG [Gafsa Phosphates Company], STIR [Tunisian Refining Company], STC, ONM [National Mines Office], ETAP [Tunisian Petroleum Activities Enterprise], ONTT [National Office of Tourism and Thermal Springs], etc.

Ministry of Public Works--Operational Budget

1983--22,200,000 dinars; 1982--20,745,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +1,455,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +7 percent.

The operational budget for the Ministry of Public Works for the 1983 fiscal year will total 22.2 million dinars, showing an increase of 1,455,000 dinars, or 7 percent.

This increase, which falls below that in 1982 (+26.6 percent), will go to cover adjustment operations based on need, in the amount of 1,348,000 dinars, and new measures, in the amount of 107,000 dinars.

The greater part of this budget will serve to cover the wage total for personnel (62 percent), which is expected to reach a total of 13,753,000 dinars in 1983, up 5.4 percent over 1982. The balance of the budget will cover the payment for equipment purchases and reimbursement for transportation costs (1,348,000 dinars, up 10.4 percent over 1982), and above all, will enable the department to take direct or indirect action in the economic, social and cultural sectors and to subsidize the establishments under the jurisdiction of the department.

Ministry of Public Works--Equipment Budget

1983--94,535,000 dinars; 1982--77,500,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +17,035,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +22 percent.

The equipment budget for the ministry for 1983 was established at 94,535,000 dinars, including 82,425,000 dinars for direct investments and 12 million for financial operations. This budget, compared to that for 1982, shows an increase of 17,035,000 dinars, or 22 percent.

Thus the credit volume clearly shows the increasing effort being made by the state for the completion of numerous projects, in particular in the airport and maritime, bridge and roads sectors.

The 82,425,000 dinars for direct investments will go in particular to finance the building of farm roads (6 million dinars), the second national road program (5.7 million dinars), the fourth road project (6.5 million dinars), the new road linking Kairouan and Skhira (2.5 million dinars), the Turki-Hammamet highway (2.5 million dinars), the second maritime fishing project (6 million dinars), etc.

The investment operations pertain to the ONAS [National Public Sanitation Office] investment program.

Ministry of Agriculture--Operational Budget

1983--70,600,000 dinars; 1982--65,022,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +5,578,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +8.6 percent.

The operational budget for the Ministry of Agriculture for the year 1983 was established at 70.6 million dinars, up 5,578,000 dinars, or 8.6 percent, over the budget for the preceding year. This increase, less than that seen in 1982 (+29.9 percent) will serve to pay for adjustment operations based on need, in the amount of 3,805,000 dinars, and new measures, in the amount of 1,773,000 dinars.

The breakdown of this budget by expenditure item shows that the wage volume leads the department's current expenditures, with a total of 45,598,000 dinars (64.4 percent of the budget total), up 6.2 percent over 1982. Next in importance are the subsidies for the management of public enterprises of an administrative nature, in the amount of 8,557,000 dinars, up 3.6 percent over 1982, and subsidies for the development offices, in the amount of 12,072,000 dinars. The balance of the budget will go in particular to cover direct and indirect state intervention in the economic, social and cultural sectors.

Ministry of Agriculture--Equipment Budget

1983--109,000,000 dinars; 1982--90,775,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +18,225,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +20.1 percent.

The equipment budget for the Ministry of Agriculture for the 1983 fiscal year comes to 109 million dinars, including 47 million dinars for direct investments and 62 million for financial operations. A comparison of this budget with that for 1982 reveals an increase of 18,225,000 dinars, or 20 percent.

Where direct investments are concerned, they will serve in particular to finance reforestation and CES operations (15,500,000 dinars), farm water supply (14,945,000 dinars), farm equipment (530,000 dinars), cadre training and farm technique dissemination (5,705,000 dinars), experimental studies and research (4,955,000), nonagricultural water supply (2,250,000 dinars), maritime fishing (1,240,000 dinars), administrative buildings (690,000 dinars) and miscellaneous projects (930,000 dinars).

The financial operations will make it possible to finance the equipment budget of the SONEDE [National Water Exploitation and Distribution Company] (14,300,000 dinars), the Grain Office (37 million dinars), and the ONP [National Fishing Office] (1,100,000 dinars).

Ministry of Public Health--Operational Budget

1983--111,700,000 dinars; 1982--90,815,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +20,885,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +23 percent.

The operational budget for the Ministry of Public Health for 1983 totals 111.7 million dinars, up 20,885,000, or 23 percent, over the 1982 budget figure. This increase will cover adjustment operations based on need, in the amount of 15,735,500 dinars, and new measures, in the amount of 5,149,500 dinars. As with certain other departments (Interior, National Education, etc.), the main portion of this ministry's budget is allocated to cover the wages of medical, paramedical, administrative and worker personnel, in the amount of 88,411,000 dinars, up 25.7 percent over 1982. The balance of the budget will go to pay for purchases of equipment (1,121,000 dinars), reimbursement of transport and assignment expenditures (480,000 dinars), public establishment management allowances (19,350,000), and, finally, direct and indirect state intervention in the economic, social and cultural sectors (2,333,000 dinars).

Ministry of Public Health--Equipment Budget

1983--23,062,000 dinars; 1982--20,157,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +2,905,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +14.4 percent.

The equipment budget for this department for the 1983 fiscal year will total 23,062,000 dinars, including 21 million dinars for direct investments and 2,062,000 for financial operations.

In a comparison with the 1982 figure, this budget shows an increase of 2,905,000 dinars, or 14.4 percent.

The financial operations pertain mainly to the National Family Planning Office (938,000 dinars) and the Thermal Springs Office (1,124,000 dinars).

The direct investments will be allocated to complete projects under way (14,450,000 dinars) and new projects (6,550,000 dinars), including 1 million dinars for health campaigns, 5,450,000 dinars for the health infrastructure, and 100,000 dinars for miscellaneous operations.

Ministry of National Education--Operational Budget

1983--202,300,000 dinars; 1982--184,700,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +17,600,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +9.5 percent.

The operational budget for the Ministry of National Education for the 1983 fiscal year was established at 202,300,000 dinars, representing a quarter of the administrative expenditures for all of the ministries.

A comparison of this budget with that for 1982 reveals an increase of 17,600,000 dinars, or 9.5 percent. This increase falls below that seen during the preceding fiscal year (+30 percent). The distribution of the allocation by expenditure item shows, as usual, that the wage total for the teaching faculty and administrative and worker personnel accounts for 93 percent of Title I for this department, in the amount of 188,164,000 dinars, up 9.1 percent over 1982. The balance of the allocation will go to pay for equipment purchases and the reimbursement of transportation costs (3,620,000

dinars), public establishment management allowances (6,516,000 dinars), and, finally, direct and indirect state intervention in the economic, social and cultural sectors (4 million dinars).

Ministry of National Education--Equipment Budget

1983--23,400,000 dinars; 1982--15,218,600 dinars; absolute variation-- +8,181,400 dinars; percentage variation-- +53.8 percent.

The equipment budget for the Ministry of National Education for the 1983 fiscal year comes to 23,400,000 dinars, including 22,900,000 for direct investments and 500,000 for financial operations.

Where direct investments are concerned, the 22,900,000 dinars proposed for this fiscal period will cover, on the one hand, the continuation of the projects under way, including in particular the building and equipping of apprenticeship centers for manual work and the modernization of teacher training schools, and on the other, the undertaking of new projects (14,900,000 dinars), including in particular the building of primary school classrooms (2,700,000 dinars), the equipping of classrooms and the building and equipping of apprenticeship centers for manual labor for primary schools. On the secondary level, the equipping of schools (5,500,000 dinars), the expansion of certain establishments (3 million dinars), etc., should be noted.

Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research--Operational Budget

1983--52,448,000 dinars; 1982--44,000,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +8,448,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +19.2 percent.

The operational budget for the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research for the year 1983 was established at 52,448,000 dinars, up 8,448,000 dinars, or 19.2 percent, over the preceding fiscal year. This increase, slightly lower than that seen in 1982 (+21 percent), will cover adjustment operations based on need (7,795,000 dinars) and new measures (653,000 dinars).

As in preceding years, two major expenditures account for more than 97 percent of Title I for this department. They are allowances for the management of public enterprises under ministerial jurisdiction (29,937,000 dinars, up 23.2 percent over 1982) and wages for the teaching faculty and administrative and worker personnel (21,069,000 dinars, up 13.6 percent over 1982). The balance of the current expenditures total for the department will go to pay for equipment purchases and the reimbursement of transportation and assignment expenditures (566,000 dinars) and direct and indirect state intervention in the social and cultural sectors (876,000 dinars).

Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research--Equipment Budget

1983--11,652,000 dinars; 1982--8,500,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +3,152,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +37.1 percent.

The equipment budget for the Ministry of Higher Education for the 1983 fiscal year comes to 11,652,000 dinars, as compared to 8,500,000 in 1982, showing an increase of 3,152,000 dinars, or more than 37.1 percent.

Pertaining solely to direct investments, this budget will serve to finance the projects under way (7,090,000 dinars), including in particular the purchase of nine buildings in Ariana, continuation of the construction work on the faculty of law in Tunis and the faculties of medicine in Sousse and Sfax, and the Higher Normal School in Bizerte. It will also cover the financing of new projects (4,562,000 dinars), including in particular the purchase of land, the modernization of old buildings, the replacement of old equipment and the purchase of vehicles.

Ministry of Information--Operational Budget

1983--8,000,000 dinars; 1982--7,944,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +56,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +0.7 percent.

The operational budget for the Ministry of Information for 1983 was established at 8 million dinars, up 56,000 dinars, or 0.7 percent, over the 1982 budget. This slight increase will go to cover adjustments operations based on need (36,000 dinars) and new measures (20,000 dinars).

The breakdown of this budget by expenditure item shows that the bulk of the credit will go to the RTT [Tunisian Radio and Television] (5,080,000 dinars) as a management allowance. The balance of the Title I funds for this department will cover the wage total for the personnel (965,000 dinars), purchases of equipment and reimbursement of transportation and assignment expenditures (403,000 dinars), allowances for the management of public establishments under ministerial jurisdiction (105,000 dinars), and, finally, direct and indirect state intervention in the social and cultural sectors.

Ministry of Information--Equipment Budget

1983--925,000 dinars; 1982--822,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +103,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +12.5 percent.

The equipment budget for the Ministry of Information for the 1983 fiscal year comes to 925,000 dinars, including 250,000 dinars for direct investment and 670,000 dinars for financial operations. A comparison of this budget with that for 1982 shows an increase of 103,000 dinars, or 12.5 percent.

Where direct investments are concerned, the greater part will cover new projects (250,000 dinars), including, in particular, the publication of works, a study of communications media impact, the National Documentation Center, the building of an enclosure for shops and garages, and the purchase of vehicles. As to the projects under way, they include only the purchase of documentation and equipment for printing and wireless communications.

The financial operations include only the TAP (675,000 dinars), for which a new headquarters is to be built and data processing introduced.

Ministry of Culture--Operational Budget

1983--9,900,000 dinars; 1982--8,275,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +1,625,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +19.6 percent.

The operational budget for the Ministry of Culture for 1983 was established at 9.9 million dinars, up 1,625,000 dinars, or 19.6 percent, over the 1982 budget figure. This increase will cover adjustment operations based on need (1,216,000 dinars) and new measures (409,000 dinars). A breakdown of this budget by item shows that the wages for the various categories of personnel predominate (4,667,000 dinars, up 15.6 percent over 1982). Next in importance are the allowances for public establishment management (2,137,000 dinars), direct and indirect state intervention in the social and cultural sectors, and, finally, purchases of equipment and reimbursement of transportation costs, totaling 2,560,000 dinars and 536,000 dinars, respectively.

Ministry of Culture--Equipment Budget

1983--3,240,000 dinars; 1982--2,702,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +538,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +19.9 percent.

The equipment budget for the Ministry of Culture for the 1983 fiscal year comes to 3,240,000 dinars, including 2.8 million for direct investments and 440,000 for financial operations. A comparison of this budget to that for 1982 reveals an increase of 538,000 dinars, or 19.9 percent. The 2.8 million dinars in payment credit for direct investments will make it possible to finance the projects under way (1,377,000 dinars), including in particular the construction and equipping of 12 libraries, the equipping of people's and cultural clubs and their expansion, and new projects (1,423,000 dinars), including mainly the construction of the first stage of the regional library in Gabes and the cultural complexes in Sousse and Kef. Where financial operations are concerned, they involve mainly the contribution to the equipment budgets of the SATPEC [Tunisian Cinematographic Production and Expansion Company], in the amount of 240,000 dinars, and the cultural publications printing establishment, in the amount of 200,000 dinars.

Ministry of Transport and Communications--Operational Budget

1983--10,970,000 dinars; 1982--9,710,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +1,260,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +13 percent.

The operational budget for the Ministry of Transport and Communications for the 1983 fiscal period, "transportation category," comes to 10,970,000 dinars, up 1,260,000 dinars, or 13 percent, from the preceding year.

This increase, which falls below that seen in 1982 (+28.9 percent) will go to cover adjustment operations based on need (1,007,000 dinars) and new measures (253,000 dinars).

The breakdown of this budget by item shows that three major expenditures stand out, i.e., allocations of an economic nature (4,670,000 dinars, up

3.7 percent over 1982), management allowances for public establishments (3,269,000 dinars, up 21.3 percent) and wage payments for departmental personnel (2,309,000 dinars, up 12.5 percent).

The balance of the expenditures for this department will pertain to equipment purchases and reimbursement for transportation costs (542,000 dinars), as well as direct and indirect intervention and the economic, social and cultural sectors.

Ministry of Transport and Communications--Equipment Budget

1983--73,600,000 dinars; 1982--61,034,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +12,566,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +20.6 percent.

Title II for this department will total 73,600,000 dinars for 1983, including 71,900,000 for financial operations and 1,700,000 for direct investments. A comparison of this budget and that for 1982 shows an increase of 12,566,000 dinars, or 20.6 percent.

Where direct investments are concerned, they will cover the financing of projects under way, in the amount of 685,000 dinars (various studies pertaining to maritime transportation, construction of the merchant marine school in Sousse, equipping of the piloting school and construction of a boarding facility, centers for technical vehicle inspection, etc.) and new measures, in the amount of 1,015,000 dinars (modernization of the air fleet, equipping and modernization of the merchant marine school, studies and equipping of the meteorological services).

Financial operations, for their part, will pertain to the equipment budgets of the SNCFT [Tunisian National Railroad Company], SNT [National Transport Company], the [Metro-Leger] Company of Tunis, the CTN [Tunisian Shipping Company], the OPNT, and, finally, the regional transportation companies.

Part II: Postal, Telephone and Telegraph Services--Operational Budget

1983--70,395,000 dinars; 1982--53,644,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +16,751,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +31.2 percent.

The operational budget for the Postal, Telephone and Telegraph Services for the year 1983 was established at 70,395,000 dinars, up 16,751,000 dinars, or 31.2 percent, from the 1982 budget figure. This increase will cover adjustment operations based on need (15,774,000 dinars) and new measures (977,000 dinars).

A breakdown of this supplementary budget by item reveals three major expenditures, i.e., the wage total (30,407,000 dinars, up 12.8 percent over 1982), the Postal, Telephone and Telegraph Services contribution to the state equipment budget (22,100,000 dinars), and direct intervention in the economic, social and cultural sectors (13,780,000 dinars).

Part II: Postal, Telephone and Telegraph Services--Equipment Budget

1983--24,920,000 dinars; 1982--20,000,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +4,920,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +24.6 percent.

Title II for the Postal, Telephone and Telegraph Services for the 1983 fiscal year totals 24,920,000 dinars, up 4,920,000 dinars, or 24.6 percent, over the 1982 budget figure.

Covering solely direct investments, this budget will cover projects under way (21,520,000 dinars) and new projects (3,400,000 dinars).

The projects under way involve in particular the purchase of vehicles, the modernization of equipment, telephone switchboards, the installation and expansion of telephone exchanges, electronic equipment, etc.

The new projects, for their part, involve above all the purchase of land, the development of interregional networks, etc.

Part III: Radio and Television Broadcasting--Operational Budget

1983--2,400,000 dinars; 1982--1,600,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +800,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +50 percent.

Of the management credit total, 59 percent is allocated for direct state intervention in the economic sector, in the form of purchase of equipment, broadcasting and energy. The balance will go for wages (635,000 dinars), reimbursement of transportation costs (33,000 dinars), state intervention in the social and cultural sectors (15,000 dinars), and miscellaneous and unforeseen expenditures (17,000 dinars).

Part III: Radio and Television Broadcasting--Equipment Budget

1983--1,300,000 dinars; 1982--1,042,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +338,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +32.4 percent.

The allocation for projects under way is 1,280,000 dinars, including the third phase of television station repair (500,000 dinars), television broadcasting equipment for the Remada station (170,000 dinars), modernization, extension and protection of the radio network (200,000 dinars), etc.

The new projects include purchase of measurement and control equipment, purchase of vehicles and other studies.

Tunisian Radio and Television--Operational Budget

1983--7,400,000 dinars; 1982--8,600,000 dinars; absolute variation-- -1,200,000 dinars; percentage variation-- -14 percent.

The reduction in the operational budget for Tunisian Radio and Television is explained by the transfer of the technical broadcasting department to the

Postal, Telephone and Telegraph Services budget. A breakdown of this budget by expenditure item shows the predominance of the wage total (65 percent of the Title I sum). The balance will go for the purchase of equipment (2,078,000 dinars) and the introduction of management allowances and direct and indirect state intervention in the social and cultural sectors (155,000 dinars).

Tunisian Radio and Television--Equipment Budget

1983--2,620,000 dinars; 1982--2,388,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +232,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +9.7 percent.

A portion (1,790,000 dinars) of this budget will cover the continuation of projects under way, in particular the purchase of vehicles, the modernization of television equipment, the equipping of Radio House in Sfax, and the equipping of Studio 9 and Radio House in Monastir. The second portion will cover the financing of new projects, in particular the replacement of radio equipment (Phase III), the purchase of vehicles for television reporting, etc.

Ministry of Youth and Sports--Operational Budget

1983--18,600,000 dinars; 1982--16,600,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +2,000,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +12 percent.

The operational budget for the Ministry of Youth and Sports for 1983 will total 18,600,000 dinars, up 2 million dinars, or 12 percent, from the 1982 budget figure.

This increase, which falls below that seen for 1982 (+28.7 percent), will cover adjustment operations based on need and new measures, in the amounts of 1,495,000 dinars and 505,000 dinars, respectively.

A breakdown of this budget by expenditure item reveals the predominance of the wage total, which increased 12.6 percent to a total of 14,139,000 dinars for the 1983 budget year. The balance of this budget will serve to pay for purchase of equipment and reimbursement of transportation and assignment expenditures (410,000 dinars, up 19.5 percent over 1982), and management allowances for public establishments under the jurisdiction of the ministry.

Ministry of Youth and Sports--Equipment Budget

1983--3,050,000 dinars; 1982--2,368,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +682,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +28.8 percent.

The equipment budget for this department for 1983 will total 3,050,000 dinars, the main portion of which will go for direct investments (3 million dinars), with the balance for financial operations, in an amount of only 50,000 dinars. Compared with the 1982 figure, this budget shows an increase of 682,000 dinars, or 28.8 percent.

In the direct investments category, the 3 million dinars will finance projects under way (1,037,000 dinars), including, in particular, construction of the regional youth training complex in Bir El Bey, clubhouses for young people, a training school for athletic instructors, both male and female, in Sfax, sports equipment, etc., as well as new projects (1,963,000 dinars), including the construction of youth clubs, the modernization of stadia and the equipping of clubs and nurseries for children.

Ministry of Social Affairs--Operational Budget

1983--21,330,000 dinars; 1982--18,861,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +2,469,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +13.1 percent.

The operational budget for the Ministry of Social Affairs for 1983 comes to 21,330,000 dinars, up 2,469,000 dinars, or 13.1 percent, over the 1982 budget figure.

This increase will go to cover adjustment operations based on need (1,313,000 dinars) and new measures (1,156,000 dinars).

A study of the breakdown of this budget by item shows that direct and indirect state intervention in the social and cultural sectors accounts for the largest sum, 13,974,000 dinars, up 11.5 percent over the 1982 figure, representing 65.5 percent of the Title I total for the department. The balance of the operational budget will go to pay the wages of administrative and worker personnel (5,815,000 dinars, up 9.9 percent over 1982), purchases of equipment (592,000 dinars), reimbursement of transportation and assignment expenditures (110,000 dinars), and management allowances for the public establishments under ministerial jurisdiction (839,000 dinars).

Ministry of Social Affairs--Equipment Budget

1983--3,463,000 dinars; 1982--3,164,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +299,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +9.5 percent.

The equipment budget for this department for the 1983 fiscal year will total 3,463,000 dinars, including 2,771,000 dinars for financial operations and 692,000 dinars for direct investments.

This budget shows an increase of 299,000 dinars, or 9.5 percent, over the 1982 budget figure.

The allocation of 692,000 dinars for direct investments will go to finance projects under way (327,000 dinars), including, in particular, the construction of additional stories at the ministry premises, and new projects (365,000 dinars), including, in particular, the modernization and equipping of the National Child Protection Institute, the purchase of a building, etc.

The financial operations allocation will finance the OTTEFP [Office for the Employment and Vocational Training of Tunisian Workers Abroad] investment expenditures.

Ministry of Housing--Operational Budget

1983--3,200,000 dinars; 1982--2,773,000 dinars; absolute variation-- +427,000 dinars; percentage variation-- +15.4 percent.

The operational budget for the Ministry of Housing for 1983 comes to 3.2 million dinars, up 427,000 dinars, or 15.4 percent, from the 1982 budget figure. This increase will go to cover adjustment operations based on need (167,000 dinars) and new measures (260,000 dinars).

A study of the breakdown of this budget by expenditure item shows that the main expenditures will be wages for personnel (1.5 million dinars), direct and indirect state intervention in the social, cultural, and above all, economic, sectors (1,122,000 dinars), purchases of equipment (540,200 dinars) and reimbursement of transportation and assignment expenditures (37,000 dinars).

Ministry of Housing--Equipment Budget

1983--14,208,000 dinars; 1982--12,608,500 dinars; absolute variation-- +1,599,500 dinars; percentage variation-- +12.7 percent.

The equipment budget for this department for the 1983 fiscal year comes to 14,208,000 dinars, including 13,708,000 dinars for financial operations and 500,000 for direct investments. This budget, compared to that for 1982, shows an increase of 1,599,500 dinars, or 12.7 percent.

The 500,000-dinar allocation for direct investments will cover the financing of administrative construction (180,000 dinars), equipment (purchase of vehicles) in the amount of 118,500 dinars, and the national housing development project (206,000 dinars).

Financial operations funds, for their part, will go in large part to the SNIT [Tunisian National Real Estate Company] (12.4 million dinars) for the financing, in particular, of programs for rural housing (6.7 million dinars) and the elimination of shacks (4 million dinars).

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ISRAELI ARAB DEMOGRAPHICS, CURRENT CONCERNS ANALYZED

Tel Aviv BAMAHAANE in Hebrew 17, 24 Nov, 1 Dec 82

[Serialized article by Hayim Raviv: "Birthrate of Israel Arabs Greater Than Chinese"]

[17 Nov 82 No 11 pp 24-26]

[Text] Birthrate, plus territory, plus education, plus frustration add up to a timebomb. This, in any case, is how Middle East scholar, Prof Arnon Sofer sees the issue of the Arab minority in Israel. Prof Sofer is unwavering. He warns us about the demographic threat, growing under our own noses without our noticing it sufficiently. Demography, he warns, has tremendous power, and one should learn from what is happening with minorities in other parts of the world. His words sound like a prophecy of doom. We should have no illusions, he says, we are facing a danger we may not be able to deal with. We will be able to work things out with the Arab countries. Our real problem is here in our Arab sector.

In a conversation at his home on Mount Carmel, Prof Sofer states his credo while offering many facts and figures to back it up. The political and security-related implications of his data are alarming, and should shake us out of our complacency and awaken in us a fear of the future.

"Israeli Arabs' birthrate is the highest in the world, and in Israel there is one Arab for every six Jews," says Prof Sofer. "Their birthrate is 4.5 percent (the Bedouin birthrate is 5 percent), that is 45 births for 1000 people."

In order to dramatize the birthrate of Israeli Arabs, Sofer refers to China and Egypt. The first has a 2 percent birthrate and the second 2.5 percent. What about the Jews? We have less births and the population is getting older. Our birthrate is 1.5 percent, and our deathrate is higher than that of Israel's Arabs. Since the birth of the state their deathrate has declined, and it is now 0.4 percent compared to the Jewish rate of 0.7 percent. This is mainly the result of better health services available to Israeli Arabs. Their birthrate, at the same time, has not changed since the Ottoman or the British Mandate eras.

It is clear, Prof Sofer, concludes, that a growing birthrate and a declining deathrate create a natural increase without parallel in the world, and Israel's Arabs are on their way to become the numerical majority in Israel's population.

Many Children

It is also important to consider the numbers in age groups in the Israeli Arab population, says Sofer. In typical population age groups, the rate of children (up to age 14) is 30 percent, while the rate among Israeli Arabs is 51 percent. If we add the 14-18 age group, we reach a total rate of 60 percent.

In other words, nearly two-thirds of Israeli Arabs are under the age of 18.

In the village of Sakhnin, for example, population 15,000, there are 7500 children under age 14. Half of the village population attends educational institutions--preschools, elementary and high schools. There is nothing like it in the world, Prof Sofer stresses.

Won't the spread of education reduce the birthrate?

Says Prof Sofer: In the future this indeed may happen. But the present members of children are such that even if in a few years families will have less children, the number of families will have increased, and the results will be astounding. In the near future we can expect the ratio between Jews and Arabs to change from 1:6 to 1:5.

Basing himself on the prediction of the Central Bureau of Statistics, Sofer says that in 1998 the Arab population inside the green line will reach 1.2 million. He says the Arab population doubles every 15-16 years. In 1948 there were 160,000 Arabs in Israel. In 1966 there were 300,000. In 1978 the number doubled and it reaches today 600,000.

The huge increase focuses in the villages. Sofer points out that Arab villages in Israel reach a population of thousands. In Sakhnin, for example, each year 500 children are born. The present population is 15,000 compared to 2500 when Israel started. A similar growth is seen in other villages. Using a comparison, Sofer says Ma'alot has 6000 inhabitants, the size of a medium Arab village, while Sakhnin and Tamra, which are called villages, are larger than Safed.

Prof Sofer speaks of an accelerated process of Arab expansion in Israel, and says the following about the Galilee: Travelling from Migdal Ha'emeq through Yafi'a, a suburb of Nazareth, then through Rana and Kana, one sees one large Arab city with private homes and industry. This is not an Arab village. It is an Arab metropolitan area with 100,000 inhabitants.

Natzrat 'Ilit, founded during the time of Ben-Gurion as a Jewish town, has become surrounded by Arab expansion, resulting from the high birthrate. In this area the Arab population has increased by 80,000, mostly Muslims.

The Arab sprawl in the Galilee should be a cause for concern, says Prof Sofer. Any traffic from Hadera to the north of Israel must go through Um al-Fahm and environs, an area inhabited by 60,000 Arabs, extending from kibbutz Barqay to kibbutz Megido. As a geographer, Sofer says, I call it an Arab metropolis. Another example Sofer uses to show the danger to Israel's security resulting from this Arabization process are the narrow hips of Israel, viz., the coastal strip. They are becoming narrower because of the village of Qalansuwa.

Prof Sofer reminds us of some past history. The Nazareth area as well as the other areas of Arab population in the Galilee were included in the 1947 Partition Plan as part of the Arab Palestinian state. Soviet maps to this day show those areas as Arab. The split in the Israeli communist camp resulted from a controversy over the partition, and when the communists talk about the "legitimate rights," it is clear what they are referring to.

The Bedouins have a major share in the Arab expansion process in Israel. In the Galilee alone there are now 30,000 Bedouins. Half of the Lower Galilee belongs to Bedouins. Not far from Moshe Dayan's grave in Nahalal there is a Bedouin town named Beit Zarzir, with an area as large as Nahariya.

The demographic situation in the Galilee, Sofer adds, also applies to the south of Israel, although the Galilee is more obvious because of its small size and the larger concentration of Arabs. Many areas in the Negev are occupied by Bedouins. Between 'Arad and Be'er Sheva there are 50,000 Bedouins who occupy an area half the size of the Galilee.

Feeling of Power

Another noteworthy change: Once Jews and Arabs lived side by side only in two places—Acre and Nazareth. Now there are Arab enclaves in nearly 100 Jewish communities, including Ya'ara, Safed, Elat, Petah-Tiqva and Rishon-L'tzion. By the end of the century, Sofer predicts, Arabs will live next to every Jewish community, except the kibbutzim.

In Jerusalem too, according to Sofer, there is cause for concern. He makes mention of the "quiet race between the Judaization of Jerusalem and the Arab high birthrate. Sofer says there is a debate over the question whether the new settlements around Jerusalem have caused the local Arab population to increase. Only some of the people who chose to settle there enjoy a higher standard of living.

What is the power of demography?

The high birthrate of Israeli Arabs will have far-reaching consequences. Sofer says. An Arab population in the Galilee of 90,000 after the War of Independence, defeated and afraid, is not the same thing as half a million. The latter has a feeling of strength, which can be seen today everywhere in the Galilee. This feeling stems from the realization that, while being a minority, they are the majority in the area.

Another demographic element of great power is territory, and it should be a warning to all of us, says Sofer. When a population becomes a majority in a certain area, you have a problem. Take for example the Galilee or the area along the green line—from Um al-Fahm via Baqa al-Garabiya to Qalqilya-Jaljulya. When the population of a certain territory becomes a majority, there is a demand for separation, and there are pressures for autonomy or independence. This is an almost unavoidable process.

Prof Sofer suggests we look at what happens in the world in this respect. In more than 100 countries there are pluralistic populations—various ethnic and religious groups. In many of them the situation is far from congenial, Sofer understates, while others always sit on a volcano about to erupt.

Lebanon, which has a number of such groups is a clear example. But the saddest example in the western world is Ireland, where two seemingly civilized groups who have lived side by side for centuries suddenly explode with mutual hatred which has resulted in the mutual killing of women and children.

The Irish, who are a minority in Belfast, consider themselves the majority on the island because of their compatriots in the south.

The British Protestant feels he is part of a large nation who stands behind him, and so the two camps make their demands and go on fighting.

Another example is Cyprus, where the Turks, who are the minority, consider themselves part of the Turkish nation whose power allows them to assert themselves. The Greeks on the island consider themselves part of Greece, hence the majority. In each of these cases the problems are huge.

In Yugoslavia, the Albanians are an insignificant minority. But when it comes to the borders of Albania, they have a feeling of power and in recent months they have been rioting. The Yugoslav government ended the riots with killings and arrests, but has not put an end to the problem.

In Iran the government has tried to Iranize Khuzistan, while the Turks have tried to make Cyprus Turkish. The results in both instances are known.

The British have tried to settle Protestants in Northern Ireland, but were not able to.

We have been trying to Judaize the Galilee, but little has been done.

From the demographic picture we shift to the socio-economic view and consequences. Sofer says Israeli Arabs have undergone an economic revolution. They are no longer poor farmers, as we have known them to be in the past. Only 15 percent work in agriculture, about the same rate as the Jews. What we see developing is an Arab urban proletariat.

Thus, for example, most of the inhabitants of Sakhnin, Tayba and Kafr Yasif--some 85 percent--are employed by the city, the schools and the construction companies in Haifa, or as managers in Nazareth, or in other industries in

Acre. The majority, who are not educated, has found employment in services in the Israeli Jewish side and has become dependent on it. This majority, Sofer indicates, always lives in fear of being the first to be dismissed if the economic crisis gets worse.

Sofer adds that because of the Arab-Israeli conflict it is not possible to grant the Arab full rights, even as they are not asked to fulfill all the duties. For obvious reasons the military industry does not employ Arabs, which greatly reduces their employment opportunities.

Israeli Arabs also have the language problem, and cannot attain senior positions.

Moreover, many university graduates do not find employment in keeping with their qualifications, since openings in teaching, medicine and pharmacy are limited.

All of this, according to Sofer, creates a feeling of frustration and discrimination despite the great socio-economic progress in recent years.

The level of socio-economic expectations of Israeli Arabs has gone up, says Sofer, but the state should not expect the Arabs to be grateful for the help it has offered them. They will always look for more, even when all the demands are met.

A Dangerous Process

Prof Sofer now looks at the other side of the coin.

The Israeli economy is becoming more and more dependent on the Arab sector. This, of course, is not a healthy development.

Since 1967 more and more of us have become managers and businessmen, while menial labor is left to the Arabs. It is true that the Arabs of the West Bank and Gaza have taken the jobs previously held by Israeli Arabs, while some of the latter became expert construction workers or foremen, but the fact remains that we Jews stopped working and started watching the stock market. In Tel Aviv one can still see Jewish workers. But in the Galilee one will be surprised to find out that in the Jewish industrial zones, established in order to bring Jews to the Galilee, the director, the engineer or the administrator are Jewish, while all the workers are Arabs.

There are many such situations, says Sofer, and one can find out about them by talking to tourist guides. Thus, for example, a tourist who arrives in Israel and boards an Arab bus in Jerusalem, then travels through certain areas with an Arab tourist guide and arrives at a hotel where he is served by Arab hotel staff, leaves Israel with the feeling that he did not meet any Jews.

This process scares me, Prof Sofer reiterates.

Aren't you exaggerating? Isn't it true that while economic conditions are good and many Arab enjoy a high standard of living they know they have something to lose and they do not want to make trouble?

Prof Sofer: Yes, many Arabs today live in luxury homes in the villages of the Galilee, with 200-300 square meters. One can mention the Arab who bought a 10 million shekel home in Sakhnin. But the standard of living does not make one forget his national sentiments. I don't believe, for example, that a resident of Baq'a al-Garabiya gets up each morning and tells himself he is a member of an unusual minority which enjoys a high standard of living. Nationalistic feelings cannot be replaced by affluence, especially when they are kindled by extremist minorities.

What about education? How does it influence the timebomb equation?

Here we have one of the greatest achievements of the state, says Sofer, but for some reason the world is not aware of it. After the War of Independence only illiterate farmers were left in Israel, since the educated people ran away. After 34 years it turns out that nearly all those who are of school age are in school. Almost 30 percent of the older ones (age 18) have had 9-12 years of school. In post-secondary schools there are 5000 Arab students, who are 2 percent of the Arab population.

In other words, a large class of educated people is growing in Israel. Of course there are many difficulties, and part of the cultural baggage they bring with them dates back to the Ottoman period, but one should look upon the next generation of Israeli Arabs as an educated generation, comparable to the Jewish generation. The level of Arab teachers is constantly improving as well. Many educated Arabs, including PhDs, have turned to education because they could not find other employment. Israeli teachers, on the other hand, are mostly women teachers who have graduated teachers' colleges, and, with all due respect, one cannot overlook the difference.

Prof Sofer adds that RAKAH sends hundreds of Arab party members to Communist Bloc countries, and they come back to Israel not only with an education but also with a Marxist ideological baggage that adds another problematic dimension to the problem of the Arab minority in Israel.

On the positive side of the education element, the line between personal human requirements and nationalistic requirements is blurred.

In the next article--the manifestations of nationalism among Israeli Arabs.

[24 Nov 82, No 12 pp 16-17]

[Text] Even if you satisfy all the socio-economic needs of Israeli Arabs, their national problem still remains in all its gravity, says Prof Sofer. Referring to a Krilov fable, he says that the more you feed the snake honey, the more venom it will secrete.

He quickly adds that he does not mean to imply that Israeli Arabs are a snake. He only wants to make the point that there is no connection between honey and its recipient. The national problem cannot be resolved by fattening someone or satisfying all his sensual needs.

What are the factors that influence the attitude of Israel Arabs toward the state?

Prof Sofer: There are many factors which operate in three circles--the inner circle, the Middle East conflict circle, and the international circle.

In what concerns the inner, or Israeli circle, says Sofer, Israeli Arabs carry a heavy emotional burden. The first thing one should bear in mind is that they are a minority who used to be a majority before the time when most of them became refugees and were scattered throughout the Arab world. They do not forget that Israel has caused the destruction of their homes, and this is the root of their bitterness towards the Jewish, shared by nearly all the Arabs of Israel.

They continue to fear discrimination and banishment. One of the things that upsets them, Sofer emphasizes, is the Jewish Law of Return. They interpret it to mean bringing over millions of Jews to Israel and taking away Arab lands in order to settle Jews.

Many Israeli Arabs still live with the feeling that the Jews have not yet settled their account with them, and are looking for the opportune moment to get rid of them once and for all. This feeling is ever-present, and can be seen in the strike and demonstrations in the Arab community following the massacre in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps. Thus, for example, at Haifa University and even in the Galilee they told Prof Sofer that breaking the strike and stopping the demonstrations was not a problem for the Israeli security forces, but they did not act because they wanted to drag the Arabs into a general uprising so that they could expel them from Israel.

Doesn't that show irrational thinking? Yes, says Sofer, we are dealing with a population whose mentality for the most part is different from ours. This is why we have to get to know it and understand its way of thinking, which is not always rational.

"The Birthrate Will Decide"

What are the other factors which influence Israeli Arabs in the inner circle?

There are thousands of "present refugees" in Israel, that is, refugees who lost their homes and went to live elsewhere, Prof Sofer reminds us. They never forget their native villages or what the Jews did to them. Thus, for example, the residents of Arab Tzipori, who live in Nazareth, often come to Jewish Tzipori to see the lands "stolen" from them, and express deep resentment.

Sofer recalls a case of an Arab who had taken him to his grandfather's land and pointed at a felled tree, and said he would come back to this land some day. Sofer tried to talk him into forgetting the past and starting a new leaf of coexistence, but the Arab told him he would never give up his right to that piece of land.

Patience, then, is a secret weapon of Israeli Arabs?

Not only Israeli Arabs, but all Arabs, Sofer replies. There may be an awakening in the Arab world, but it is a negative awakening. They know Israel is strong, and since they cannot beat it now, they have to talk to it. It is good for both sides. But this does not mean they have accepted the existence of Israel.

Prof Sofer returns to the subject of the Galilee. There, he says, the Arabs are apathetic toward Israel's attempt of Judaization. Let them build more outposts, they say. It doesn't matter. Our birthrate will determine in the end our belonging here, we only need patience.

In the Beit Zarzir area, not far from Ramat David, Sofer met with a local Arab. "I don't know how many fighter jets you have around here, 100 or more Phantoms," the Arab told Prof Sofer. "It doesn't mean a thing. This land will belong to those who settle here, which is what I and my children in Beit Zarzir are doing."

During the demonstrations of Israeli Arabs following the Sabra and Shatila massacre one could hear cries to liberate the Galilee.

"A Wounded Homeland"

The feeling of power of Israeli Arabs resulting, among other things, from their demographic growth and the fact that they are part of a majority in this part of the world, can also be seen in their poetry. In a poem by RAKAH member Taufiq Ziad, he says clearly: "In this enchanted region, here in the Galilee and in Nazareth, we have a wounded homeland and a people banished beyond the border. We are determined to restore our undying right. We were regain it despite the steel and the fire. We will once again turn it into paradise."

These words, written by Ziad in the fifties, are part of a nationalistic literature developed during the past decade in the Arab community, of which Ziad is one of the pioneers.

Sofer continues to talk about the influence of the second circle--the Arab world. He argues that the intensity of the nationalist sentiment is affected by the Arab-Israeli conflict. If there is war in Lebanon and Palestinians are affected, there is ferment. When the conflict subsides, there is a calm. If Israel is in a bad situation, the Israeli Arabs see it as internal weakness and become hopeful. All of us must remember how Israeli Arabs reacted when they heard during the Yom Kippur War that Syrian armor was advancing from the Golan Heights toward Safed.

How can one describe the relation of Israeli Arabs to the Arab world? In the past Israeli Arabs were considered traitors by the rest of the Arab world. But since the Six Day War and the renewal of relations with the Arabs of the territories, a change took place, says Prof Sofer. Israeli Arabs were influenced by the Arabs of the territories, who were looked upon as nationalistic while they, the Israeli Arabs, were considered traitors and collaborators. Several hundreds of Arabs were caught while engaged in subversion and espionage in cooperation with the PLO. On Land Day the inhabitants of the Galilee (in a document issued by RAKAH) expressed their thanks to the Arabs of the West Bank for identifying with them, and stated, "We have proven ourselves and we are one people."

The Arab minority in Israel, then, has become in the eyes of the Arab world a force that can be used, Prof Sofer points out.

Aren't the nationalistic manifestations among Israeli Arabs confined to a vocal minority, while the majority of the Arabs are loyal to the state?

Sofer explains that under certain circumstances the silent majority can be influenced by the vocal minority. You can always find a small group in the Arab community ready to attack the Jews, as you can find such groups in any other society.

Unfortunately, Sofer adds, the wheels of history are turned not by masses of people, but by a few individuals or dominant groups. The vocal minority is the power that moves the silent majority. This is why Sofer does not accept the view that the silent majority is silent and all is well. The fact that this majority has not clearly aligned its radical elements only indicates that there is some hope for Jewish-Arab coexistence of some kind.

Prof Sofer points out some of the signs of this coexistence. In the Haifa marketplace and in other towns in the Galilee one sees Jews and Arabs doing business with each other. Arabs work on Jewish construction projects. In Arab restaurants you meet many Jews. All this is good and well, he says, but an improved socio-economic situation is no guarantee that the national question is solved. It can only blunt its edge. The silent majority continues to be inflammable material that can be easily set off by a vocal majority.

The fact is that on the first Land Day, on 3 March 1976, everyone struck. Nearly every Arab farmer or construction worker, or industry worker, has feelings of discrimination and fear of expulsion, alongside a feeling of power. He will always say he is mistreated and will make demands. Therefore, says Prof Sofer, the term silent majority should be used with caution. We should not rest on our laurels because the majority is silent at the moment.

Democracy—A Feather in Israel's Cap

Young people always tend to become more involved than others in nationalistic movements, especially those who feel discriminated against. What is the present mood of Arab youth?

Prof Sofer: There is a tendency among the youth of returning to religion, because of the influence of the Khomeini regime in Iran. This has resulted in extremist religious youth movements. It is hard to say whether this is only a fad or the beginning of a long process that will lead to a fanatic Muslim population. For the time being, however, this is not a widespread phenomenon.

RAKAH, on the other hand, is going after Arab youth. The attitude of the youth toward this party is largely influenced by the attitude of the Soviet Union toward the Arab world and the Palestinian problem (here Prof Sofer touches on the third circle and its influence on Israeli Arabs. He says that if the USSR, for example, rolls out the red carpet for 'Arafat, the prestige of RAKAH in the Arab community goes up). The rate of support of RAKAH by the youth in the 1981 elections went down, and one of the reasons was because they considered RAKAH too moderate. But there are other reasons which are yet to be fully studied. In any case, Sofer says, there is searching among the Arab students on campus, and they look for a way—religion or Marxism, or adopting the ideology of the Sons of the Village, which is very clear cut.

Nevertheless, there are those among Israeli Arabs who appreciate life in a democratic state where one is free to express oneself and demonstrate, which one cannot do in Arab countries.

Prof Sofer agrees with me on this point. He tells me about a boy in 'Ar'ara, who watched the report on television with his father of the Sabra and Shatila massacre. The boy started to scream with anger, while his father tried to calm him down and said to him, You are right, my son, but think about it—in which Arab country would they allow to show these pictures? The boy fell silent and suddenly said, this is really a feather in Israel's cap. The father told Prof Sofer that not a word was said in the house all evening.

How can one deal with the problems of the Arab minority in Israel? This will be discussed in the next installment, the third in this series.

[I Dec 82 No 13 pp 22-23]

[Text] Granting almost full equality to the Arabs loyal to the state, a strong hand with nationalistic groups, proper planning of the strategy of Jewish settlements as well as a social reform of Israeli society, military and technological strength and Jewish knowhow—these are the main ingredients in the formula Prof Sofer offers to deal with the demographic timebomb of the Arab minority in Israel and convince the Arab world (which influences at least part of this minority) that it pays to live with us in peace rather than seek to harm us.

Sofer looks at the birthrate of Israeli Arabs from the global perspective and his pessimism deepens. He says the demographic problem in the world is getting worse. The human race is not heading for a better situation. The world population today is around 4 billion, and if there is so much hunger and so many problems in the world today, what will happen in 20 years, when the world adds 2-3 more billions? It will be hell, Sofer says.

He is also afraid of the demographic threat of Israeli Arabs in case of comprehensive peace between Israel and the Arab countries. Even then, he says, it is hard to free oneself from concern about their high birthrate. He adds that these are educated Arabs who have been influenced by the Jews. If the awesome process of Arab proliferation in the Galilee continues, by the end of the century their number in this area will reach almost 700,000, both an economic and a political power. If there is no Arab party today, this does not mean there will not be one in the future, and Sofer as a Jew and as a member of a minority people in the region is worried about the shape of the Jewish state, as he is worried about the security of the state.

Unwise Policy

In answer to those who say that we were also few in the past, only 10 percent of the present population, and yet we have come a long way, Sofer says: They are forgetting that we are now paying in Israel the price of the Holocaust, in which a huge potential of 6 million Jews were destroyed. In order to move the Jews of New York, should we—God forbid—pray that they become victims of a Holocaust?

Prof Sofer states clearly that the Judaization of the Galilee project has failed for the simple reason that the necessary resources were not made available. He says he believed in the project but has been disappointed. The Arabs remained a 70 percent majority in the Galilee with only 30 percent Jews, and the ratio will get worse. In Sakhnin, for example, 500 children are born each year, while all the outposts together do not produce 500 children. Let there be no illusions, Sofer says. For 30 years we have been trying to settle the Galilee and have not succeeded. We always come up with excuses for our failure. Sometimes it is the economic situation and sometimes it is a war. The murder of children by the 'Arafat people reminded Jews there was a Galilee, he says sarcastically. Since then there have been many plans for settling the Galilee, but little has been done.

The professor talks about the need for planning for the right settlement strategy. He mentions the idea which is being discussed, we are told, by architects and geographers, of concentrating the national effort on what he calls the "double spine," that is, settling the whole length of the Golan Heights and the Jordan Valley from Metula to Elat. In all of that area there are only 150,000 Jews, says Sofer, compared to 500,000 Jews on the coast, mainly in the Tel Aviv area.

What are the chances of such a project? At the present time, nil, says Sofer. Israeli society is too caught up in the stock market. No one wants to be a farmer when he can make money in the stock market. This is why people prefer to live in Tel Aviv, and no one is interested in the Galilee or Judea and Samaria. We need a reform in Israeli society, says Prof Sofer.

What, then can be done realistically in order to at least blunt the edge of nationalism among the Arab minority and maintain peaceful coexistence?

Prof Sofer has a number of suggestions:

Grant Israeli Arabs as many civil rights as possible; treat them as equals. Do not ignore the fact that in the field of employment there is clear discrimination. While the opportunities of employment are limited for obvious reasons, especially in the military industry, that fact that some services are almost the monopoly of Arabs is not healthy. The Arabs are aware of it and are therefore angry and frustrated. Integrating the Arabs in the economy is good for the Jews, says Prof Sofer. He does not see why Arab doctors cannot work alongside Jewish doctors at Maimonides Hospital (Rambam).

Give Israeli Arabs the assurance that no one is trying to expel them.

The Jewish community should treat the Arab like a person, not an inferior creature. Past incident of attacking Arabs in a community hit by terrorists must be avoided.

Arab municipalities should be treated as equals in fiscal allocations. Druze municipalities should not be given preferential treatment.

The economic situation of Israeli Arabs should be improved. They should feel they have something to lose.

The law in regard to construction should be enforced. It should not be allowed, says Sofer, that the Arabs of the Galilee do whatever they want in this area. Before the election, he says, the Arabs do illegal construction. They build houses along national roads and turn those roads into local roads of Arab communities, as has happened in 'Umm al-Fahm, Nazareth, Shefar'am and Sakhnin.

What would you consider the immediate priorities in dealing with the Arab community?

First he would see in what areas Israeli Arabs are discriminated against. He would start with the municipalities. He would work on their sewage problems, water and roads. He would make sure they would have good planning and solve their school facilities problem.

There Is Room for Optimism

At the same time Prof Sofer counsels to deal harshly with extremist groups. "Deal with every group that endangers the state—forcefully, not with psychologists. Give them the full treatment, but do it with a clear conscience, after you have done something for that population."

To sum up, Prof Sofer, your words about the demographic threat leave us with a feeling of consternation. In what way can the strength of the state affect the attitude of the Arabs toward the state, in one way or another?

Prof Sofer: The military strength of the state is important, but in regard to the present subject this strength is not unlimited. Armor and air force will not solve the problem. We will not be able to use them to solve the problem of the Arab minority, but the coupling of military and technological power with Jewish knowhow can give us almost unlimited power, if we know how to use them. We may even be able to convince the Arab world that it pays to coexist with us rather than harm us.

Prof Sofer believes that this combination, along with the right policy toward the Arab community in the light of the above suggestions gave give room for optimism.

9565

CSO: 4423/75

PRESIDENT'S NEW PROGRAM FOR DEALING WITH COUNTRY'S ILLS DETAILED

Paris AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI in Arabic No 293, 13-19 Dec 82

[Article: "Al-Jumayyil Tells Ministers He Is Determined To Overhaul the Administration To Effect Reform, To Build a Modern Advanced State, but not To Wreak Vengeance; 50 Percent Increase in Salaries; Work Hours To Be Changed; 8,000 To Be Dismissed"]

[Text] Informed sources believe that the reform which the president intends to carry out in the state's institutions will be radical and unique. This is despite news of obstacles that have begun appearing on the road [to that objective]. Information in this regard indicates that President Amin al-Jumayyil had outlined the objectives he wanted to achieve and had informed the ministers about them. The president had said that the reform which had to be realized in his administration may not be traditional. [He said], "Those reforms have to respond to the wishes, the hopes and the aspirations of the people. It is essential that the Lebanese people regain their confidence in the state and its institutions. This can only come about with a good administration and with judicial and security agencies that can rise above temptation. Reform may not be construed as an attempt to do away with one team and replace it with another for political, partisan and personal considerations. Reform must be construed as an attempt to establish a modern and a developing state."

President al-Jumayyil's assumptions about conditions in the state's institutions are ones that many politicians who held many ministerial and administrative positions do not have. These assumptions give one an idea about the president's broad knowledge in the affairs of the administration, the judiciary, internal security and the army even though he had never before held a position as minister. An example of this lies in the fact that after the government was given emergency powers, a few deputies went to meet the president to inform him, as they said, about their experiences and their expertise in administrative affairs. The deputies were surprised by the fact that their expertise and experiences were old and did not take new developments into account.

Overstaffed Agencies

There are agencies talking about the possibility that the state will do away with the services of 15 to 20 percent of administration employees. This is countered by a plan to increase the number of personnel in the army, in internal security

forces and in the courts. This plan is the product of assumptions which indicate that the administration is overstaffed and that this situation is playing a large part in thwarting business and delaying the implementation of business transactions and measures. In return and despite conditions that the country is facing, there is a considerable shortage in the number of judges, in army personnel and in domestic security forces. In other words there is a shortage in the institutions and agencies that must be strengthened to preserve the components of the state.

The consequences and implications of the plan to do away with the services of a high percentage of administrative employees are still being deliberated, and no decision has yet been made. It is certain, however, that the state is convinced that any reform that is carried out without due consideration of the material reality of the administration will fail. The state is also convinced that business cannot be simplified as long as complicated statutes and a spirit of "no confidence" continues to dominate the legislative statutes which have been in effect for 23 years. Those who drew up these statutes had done so out of an inability to face up to the reality of the administration. They covered up that inability by showing a lack of trust in employees. This is manifested in existing statutes which are based on complicating procedures by expanding the distribution of supervision and scrutiny to the largest number of employees in a single ministry, a single directorate or a single department. Relying on these statutes which were inspired by a lack of confidence, ministries and administrations continued to ask that [more] employees be hired to complete the work that was piling up. Also political interference in the administration acquired the character of blackmail and prevented successive governments from standing up to politicians who were practicing this blackmail for various considerations.

A Reconsideration

The plan to dismiss this large number of employees cannot be carried out unless three other plans are also carried out. These are: a plan to reconsider legislative statutes, a plan to increase salaries and a plan to change work hours so that business can be done in the state's agencies before noon and after noon.

In the opinion of those who are concerned, reconsideration of legislative statutes has become an urgent necessity. It is not reasonable for a state to continue implementing laws that were enacted 23 years earlier under the pressure of circumstances and considerations that have been changed and altered.

Salary increases for employees are required by the new economic reality. If citizens are complaining of the fact that bribery in [the government's] agencies has become rampant, the state is looking at this matter from the standpoint of this fact and also from the standpoint of a group of employees who have become accustomed to bribery.

It is the opinion of the chief of Central Inspection that the proposed salary increases, [which would go into effect] after between 15 and 20 percent of present employees are dismissed cannot bring about the outcome that is hoped for unless these salary increases are tied to a change in work hours and to a measure that would require employees to work before noon and after noon. This change in work hours will achieve two objectives: first, it will make up for the reduction in the number of employees, and second, it will increase productivity.

The chief of inspection adds, "Doing away with the services of about 8,000 employees cannot possibly create a social problem as some people fear it would. There are two reasons for this. First, half that number of people have been working in private organizations in Lebanon or abroad for 6 years and are still receiving their salaries from the state's treasury. The other reason is that the state expects new companies and institutions to be formed and to 'absorb' the remaining number of employees who will be dismissed from their jobs."

Increasing Salaries

Considerable official attention is being devoted to the subject of increasing salaries. Sources in the administration stated that the increase must be considerable and must not be less than 50 percent for the vast majority of employees. For supervisory agencies, that is for central inspection, for the Civil Service Board, for the Judiciary Board and for the Accounting Office, it must not be less than 100 percent.

When Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan met previously with the chief of Central Inspection and the [Chief of the Civil] Service Council in the presence of the ministers of justice and finance, he suggested that a decision be made defining the particulars for taking away employees' immunity. He suggested that employees be given an opportunity to resign and that a committee be formed to investigate the status of employees who are held in suspicion and who did not resign. However, the chief of the [Civil] Service Board expressed the wish that they be relieved of this task since former board officials had undergone "a bitter experience" as a result of the purge that was carried out 17 years ago.

At the meeting the prime minister was asked about the "kind" of immunity that the state wanted to take away. He was asked whether removing immunity would be confined to a limited period of time or whether it will be permanent, as is the case in the judicial system, so that the state could remain in a position of being able to take action freely and to continue the purge process. The prime minister was also asked about the investigation that would be carried out with employees who are held in suspicion. He was asked whether the investigation would include past suspicions or whether it will be confined to those that arose after enactment of a statute removing immunity. Prime Minister al-Wazzan declined to answer both questions, and he expressed his hope that the Council of Ministers would settle "these particulars" in 2 days, that is in the session that the council held on 1 December. But the council met and adjourned the meeting without settling "these particulars."

8592

CSO: 4404/152

PRESIDENT AL-JUMAYYIL'S CONCEPT OF ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION ASSESSED

Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic No 301, 27 Nov 82 p 44

[Article: "Al-Jumayyil in Saudi Arabia: Economic Participation Not Financial Aid"]

[Text] Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's visit to Saudi Arabia in the middle of this month contained a noticeable economic feature in the field of joint cooperation—a feature embodied in the slogan raised by President al-Jumayyil calling for "economic participation, not financial aid."

The significance of this slogan is that it project a new and advanced formula, which constitutes a proper framework for foreign participation in the reconstruction, not only insofar as Saudi Arabia is concerned but also insofar as other countries displaying their willingness to participate are concerned.

The fact is that the problem with Saudi Arabia lies not in discussing the extent of its willingness to participate but in the means to translate this assistance in a manner beneficial to Lebanon and satisfactory to the kingdom.

The slogan of "economic participation" eliminates for the first time ever the impression that Lebanon is soliciting foreign aid. This impression may have developed as a result of Lebanon's past demand for payment of the cash aid approved by the Baghdad and Fez Arab summits.

The Lebanese president was eager to decisively discard the idea of soliciting before the World Bank in his meeting with bank officials during his recent visit to the United States when he asserted that the issue has not been and will not be one of money.

Lebanon's experience with the sisterly Arab countries since the Baghdad and Fez summits is perhaps behind the advanced formula projected by the Lebanese president in Saudi Arabia and behind his call for economic participation, considering that in 3 years Lebanon has received only \$400 million of the \$2 billion allocated for it [by the summits] over a period of 5 years and keeping in mind that the \$400 million was not received on schedule.

Even though the security situation has served as justification for the slowdown in Arab aid, observers believe that had this aid been delivered on time it would have been very beneficial at the humanitarian and national levels despite everything. Of course, it was unlikely that this aid would have been fruitful in development projects but it was essential to make up for part of the budget deficit, to curb inflation and to contribute to improving the [Lebanese] pound exchange rate, not to mention its immediate benefit to the south by enabling the southerner to hold on to his land and to fortify it against the Israeli invasion that occurred later.

The question is: What does the concept of "economic participation" that was projected in Saudi Arabia mean?

To put it simply, it means that the monies to be given to Lebanon will not come in the form of grants or cash aid deposited in the treasury to be disbursed afterwards within the framework of the ordinary or special budgets. It means that the monies to be received will be tied fundamentally to specific projects. The foreign party concerned may participate in implementing these projects or in selecting the organization to implement them.

To put it more clearly, the participation may, for example, take place in the following manner: Lebanon will turn to Saudi Arabia, for example, to say that it needs to have the highways and roads project implemented within the framework of set studies that specify the project's programs and its financial, technical and technological requirements. In this project, the Saudi side will participate in the economic feasibility study and will then express its willingness to participate in all or part of the project. This side will also express its opinion on implementation, proposing, for example, that such and such a firm, which might be Lebanese, Saudi or something else, implement it.

If the Saudi participation in the project is partial (50 percent, for example), it becomes necessary to present the project to another side.

The issue of "economic participation" can be visualized practically through an experiment that was actually conducted in Beirut. The project to clean up the capital and to remove the debris from its streets and suburbs was carried out by (Ujayh) Lubnan, a Lebanese firm owned by Rafiq al-Hariri, who imported large-volume and high-standard machinery and equipment and completed in a short time what the state agencies would not be able to do in a full year. When Saudi Arabia became aware of the presence of the effective and useful executive instrument, it hastened to participate and did not accept that al-Hariri alone shoulder the financial burden entailed in this task.

The "economic participation" formula agrees with the wishes and convictions of numerous Lebanese businessmen who can move and help within this framework. These men know that the Lebanese administration could undermine the issue of aid--foreign willingness [to advance aid] specifically--as a result of the waste it will cause through slow implementation or honesty in work.

Lebanese businessmen believe that the reconstruction process cannot wait for the administrative reform process, which, in Lebanon, requires surgery to

remove more than one chronic malady in the administrative body, which began to deteriorate with the start of the independence era.

Therefore, it is necessary to resort to various formulas to do the rebuilding, especially of the infrastructures, without which the private sector cannot be expected to undertake economic activity.

Consequently, the slogan of "economic participation, not financial aid" dictates that the Lebanese side take a number of steps and measures, of which the following are probably the most important:

Reconsider the reconstruction program drawn up in the past and transform it into a 5-year or 7-year plan that establishes priorities for the projects and conducts the technical and economic studies necessary for them.

Focus on infrastructure projects, such as telecommunications, roads and highway networks and educational and health services.

Set up a financial agency with diverse powers to study the financing aspect of the reconstruction plan and to determine the proper resources for each project, in addition to determining the Lebanese contribution.

8494

CSO: 4404/120

NEW LAW AFFECTING FORMATION OF EFFECTIVE ARMY DESCRIBED

Paris AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI in Arabic No 292, 6-13 Dec 82 pp 12-13

[Article: "The Military Service Law Is Revived; It Is To Be Financed by Increasing Taxes and Fees and It Is To Be Implemented in Stages; People To Be Drafted only after Equipment Is Furnished, Barracks Are Built and Remote Training Fields Set Up"]

[Text] The government has decided to put the military service law into effect, and it has charged the minister of defense to cooperate with the minister of finance to define application procedures for this law. This is to be done in no more than 1 month so that the first group of Lebanese citizens to whom the provisions of this law apply can be drafted.

This law was issued on 6 December 1975 in the aftermath of deliberations and discussions that had lasted 2 years. Deputy Nusri al-Ma'luf said in one of his statements that the bill had been drafted in 1974 when he was minister of defense. The Chamber of Deputies passed it in 1975, and since then it has not been implemented. This means that a military service law has existed on the books for 7 years but has not been implemented. "It was this that led me to say during [parliament's] vote of confidence session that it was not laws that we lacked but rather men to enforce the laws!"

A member of the Parliamentary Defense Committee said that the period of time which the Council of Ministers gave the minister of defense and the minister of finance to work together was restricted to defining application procedures for the law. It does not mean that the first group of Lebanese citizens will be drafted after 1 month, that is, at the end of the period of time that was given to the minister of defense. There is a major difference between defining application procedures and drafting people. Defining procedures deals with military and financial details, whereas the draft can only take place after these details are approved.

The forementioned source added that he had asked the prime minister about the approximate date when the first group of Lebanese citizens to whom the provisions of the law apply would be drafted. The prime minister replied, "The discussions that took place in the Council of Ministers made it clear that instituting the draft as soon as possible was desirable. This was after it became evident to the government that the consensus among the Lebanese people was that the army had to

be strengthened and empowered to assume the burdens that have been placed on its shoulders."

Location and Equipment

What is evident here is that the prime minister is either trying to anticipate matters or he is refraining from discussing the obstacles that may impede the execution of the draft as promptly as he would like. Young men cannot be drafted unless the necessary furnishings and equipment have been provided, the necessary barracks have been built, the training locations have been determined and areas of land that must be far from residential locations chosen to serve as training fields where the draftees can engage in target practice using different kinds of weapons. Although officials may believe that the army has the necessary quantity of weapons to train young people, [the fact is that] the army does not have adequate barracks space; it does not have the necessary quantities of clothing; it does not have the required number of transport vehicles; and it did not contract with the necessary number of physicians. The army did not take any measures to begin building field hospitals. Although the question of [measures pertaining to] hospitals, physicians and male and female nurses is one of application, carrying out these measures is no simple matter.

The committee member went on to say, "Furnishing the necessary number of barracks is considered an extremely important matter. The Ministry of Defense actually controls a limited number of barracks in the western district. Half of them have been destroyed or have been severely damaged. Restoration of these barracks would require between 5 and 8 months. As far as training centers and target practice fields are concerned, the question is a difficult one because population density in West Beirut and in the southern neighborhood would not permit establishment of these centers and use of these fields. The area which the army used in the past for target practice is the area of al-Rumul which is located from the west to the east between al-Uza'i Beach and Airport Boulevard and from the north to the south between Bi'r Hasan and the airport. This area is now a residential area. In addition, many roads have been built in it."

The Role of Mayors

Since the government is not identifying the first group of Lebanese citizens to whom the military service law would apply, it would be premature to talk about the number of people in that group. All that can be said is that immediately after the military service bill was sent to the Chamber of Deputies in mid 1974, the Ministry of Defense charged a team of junior military [officers] with the task of gathering information from mayors about the number of young men who had reached the age of 18. Then, in the aftermath of the collapse of security early in 1975, this team stopped working.

The Defense Committee member said that officials believe that the task of compiling information is an easy one. It is not. Compiling information is a difficult task, particularly after extensive damages that were inflicted on the homes of a large number of mayors in villages and towns and buildings which house census departments in the regions. The government will not be in a position to enforce the military service law in earnest until a long time after foreign troops withdraw from Lebanese territory. This is because the chaos that developed in the occupied areas will not enable the state to take any serious action before 6 months elapse after occupation ends.

The committee member declared that he had heard from one of the ministers that there was a tendency to begin enforcing the military service law and to draft a group of Lebanese citizens in 2 or 3 months. Initially, enforcement of the law will be confined to young men who live in Greater Beirut. Enforcement of the law would continue in light of the withdrawal from the areas. The minister said, "Information available to those concerned indicates that the barracks that are located in Greater Beirut can accommodate the number of men who will be drafted from these areas. [This information also indicates] that it will be possible to provide the necessary quantities of clothing and equipment. Restoration of some of these barracks does not pose a problem." The committee member said, "This optimism was inspired by a request for a large quantity of clothing for army personnel that the Ministry of Defense made to the U.S. government. The Ministry of Defense believes that it will get this quantity of clothing that it had asked for soon. But the question is not one of clothing only; it is a question that deals with many details as well."

5 Billion

The member of the Parliamentary Defense Committee mentioned in the course of his discussion that when the military service bill was submitted to parliament in mid 1974 the costs of carrying out the plan in its entirety were estimated to be 5 billion pounds. But the government will not carry out the entire plan at once. The plan will be carried out in stages. So if the costs of executing the project in its entirety were estimated 9 years ago to be 5 billion pounds, then sharp price increases would suggest that the government will spend that sum carrying out one half or one third of this plan. More than one official source has affirmed that providing the funds was not a problem and that the state can provide the necessary funds as long as the project will be implemented in stages.

The committee member thinks that these funds cannot be provided unless taxes and fees are increased. Since the Chamber of Deputies has declined authorizing the government to increase taxes and fees and since it has declined to legislate new taxes and fees, then it ought to brace itself for consideration of a bill from the Council of Ministers to increase taxes and fees or to institute some [new] taxes and fees to raise the money that is necessary for the military service law. If the government uses the loans it will get from some countries to cover the expenses of the military service law, it will impair plans that have been made for reconstruction. Although officials are saying that there are loans for reconstruction, loans for strengthening the army and loans for internal security, the loans are granted basically for development projects. These loans that will be granted to strengthen the army and to [provide] domestic security will be limited unless the state furnishes the funds that are necessary for implementation by raising the money domestically.

The committee member said that one may form a clear idea about the direction the government intends to pursue to put the military service law into effect from the details of application procedures for that law. These application procedures will be presented to the Council of Ministers in 3 weeks.

LEBANON

OUTCOME OF NEGOTIATIONS TO DETERMINE ECONOMIC AID TO REBUILD COUNTRY REPORTED

Paris AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI in Arabic No 293, 13-19 Dec 82 pp 12-13

[Article: "Italy Proposes Aid; the United States Grants It; France Considers It; Withdrawal of Foreign Troops Holding Up Aid; Preference To Be Given to Weapons for the Army and to Roads"]

[Text] Information has been received in the capital of Lebanon indicating that the government of Italy has indicated that it was willing to offer part of the aid that Lebanon's army needs. Italian officials indicated that the facts which are available to them encourage them to give preference to a number of helicopters, fast [motor] boats to monitor the coast and limited quantities of conventional weapons. The Lebanese government has accepted the Italian offer in principle and has expressed its hope that the details [of this offer of aid] be postponed until talks are held between military men in the two countries.

After the Italian government decided to commission employees representing the ministries concerned with the affairs of aid to Lebanon [for this task], it was expected that the Lebanese government would quickly set an appropriate date for these military talks to begin.

Information revealed that Italian companies had committed themselves to make an offer to sell the Lebanese government prefabricated housing that could be used as army barracks. However, these companies did not make the offer after they learned that American companies had made an offer to sell such homes. Representatives of these companies did actually conduct negotiations with Lebanese employees, informing them that the American companies were prepared to provide the number of homes necessary at a cost of 2,500 dollars per square meter. They said that one room in a barracks would hold four soldiers based on the fact that there would be four bunk beds in each room, with two beds on top of each other on each side of a room. Lebanese employees found that the set price of 2,500 dollars per square meter was high, and the Americans replied by stating that they were willing to discuss the price which the Lebanese would offer [to pay] when it was time to get preliminary approval for the project and look into details.

Reliable sources revealed that the United States intended to offer Lebanon 50 million dollars in military aid over a period of 5 years, at a rate of 10 million dollars every year. This will be a loan with interest. The Lebanese government informed [the United States] that the first 10 million dollars could not be paid to the American companies that work for the Ministry of Defense before the middle

of next year. The Lebanese government also reported that if it has an urgent need to purchase a quantity of weapons at the present time, it can pay the price of these weapons and get back that sum when the loan is made. The Council of Ministers approved the American offer and decided to transfer 46 million pounds to the U.S. government.

But the proposed 500 million dollars loan that was taken up by Congress had nothing to do with the military aid loan. This proposal will be reduced to about 150 million dollars, and the U.S. administration may consider that sum a grant.

The information stated that the aid which Lebanon will get from Saudi Arabia will be earmarked for international highways and principal roads projects. These roads were seriously damaged during the events. A number of deputies spoke about the troubles that area residents face when they travel because of the holes in the roads. The deputies said that they had looked into this matter with officials, and the reply was that agencies that are concerned with this matter cannot do anything under present conditions because of the foreign occupation and because appropriations are not available. It has been learned that Saudi aid will be offered only after foreign troops leave Lebanese territory. In addition, this aid will not be paid in cash; in fact, it is likely that it will come in the form of equipment and furnishings to the Lebanese government. The kingdom would be informed of the particulars of the projects that will be carried out in the regions.

Despite the troubled atmosphere that prevails over relations between Lebanon and the Gulf states, reliable sources expect Saudi Arabia to make praiseworthy efforts to clear the air between these countries and encourage the Gulf states to offer assistance to the government of Lebanon. If Saudi Arabia succeeds in its efforts, it is expected that there will be coordination between it and the Gulf states to expand the repair of international highways and principal roads and to look into the possibility of building a new system of roads. However, the future of Arab aid depends ultimately on political developments in Lebanon and on the extent to which these developments will affect relations with the Gulf states.

The talks that French minister of defense, Mr Charles Hernu held in Beirut were not confined to the military aid that France can offer Lebanon. The talks dealt with various kinds of aid. There is some similarity between the talks that the French minister of defense held and the talks that the Italian minister of foreign affairs held at an earlier time. In the talks both ministers held in Beirut, preference was given to providing the army with weapons, but the ministers did not rule out other aid. The French minister talked about the task force that he intends to form; it will be like the task force that the Italian government formed after Italy's minister of foreign affairs visited Beirut. Although the task force that will be formed by the French minister of defense will concern itself with military cooperation, this does not mean that its function will be separate from the function charged to the French task force that is headed by Deputy (Alain Hautcourt). Several ministries are represented on that task force which functions under the supervision of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

NEW BORDER GUARD UNIT PROPOSED

Paris AL-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AL-DUWALI in Arabic No 293, 13-19 Dec 82 p 13

[Article: "Border Guard of 15,000 Persons To Be Formed after Military Service Law Is Put into Effect; International Encouragement Emphasizes Lebanese Formula"]

[Text] Experts in military affairs believe that the Council of Ministers' decision to put the Military Service Law into effect was the decision of President Amin al-Jumayyil. Thus, the law will be implemented despite the obstacles and difficulties that developed for the government in the aftermath of the Council of Ministers' decision.

Experts acknowledge that most of the complications may delay but will not suspend implementation, particularly since most of these complications are related to administrative, technical and financial arrangements. The other group of complications is confined to [the process of] choosing the locations where the barracks will be built. Proper implementation of the law requires that the barracks be built in various areas. But since the conditions of the occupation do not allow any such action to be taken at the present time, the government will have to be deliberate in implementing the law, but it is not to disregard it.

Experts are relating news that [certain] political and military groups are expressing their doubts in the state's ability to overcome the difficulties it is facing in putting the military service law into effect. Experts describe these news as unrealistic because activating this law under present conditions in particular would be a matter of domestic-international politics and not merely domestic politics. Those who are interested in this law and its future must ponder this matter. If there are difficulties, these difficulties lie in the details of the law and not in its underlying principle. The determination to put the law into effect is backed by international encouragement [which is being given] for considerations that have to do with the future of the Lebanese pact.

International encouragement will not stop at the military service law. At the proper time, specifically after the Israeli withdrawal, this encouragement will shift, and a plan will be proposed to establish a border guard along the southern borders [of Lebanon] from al-Naqurah to al-'Arqub. This border guard is expected to consist of 15,000 persons: officers, non-commissioned officers and soldiers. The purpose of this plan is to provide employment opportunities for the young men of the southern villages and to strengthen the authority of the state by setting

up military troops alongside the army. International agencies that are encouraging the establishment of this border guard are looking at Lebanon's long-term future situation. They think that the results produced by Israel's war against the Palestinians in Lebanon must constitute the beginning of a radical departure from the policy and plans that the Lebanese state used to adhere to and implement.

8592

CSO: 4404/152

MINISTER AFRAM'S PETROLEUM POLICIES EXAMINED

Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic No 301, 27 Nov 82 p 51

[Article: "Minister Afram Gives Up His Authority in Petroleum Affairs; Reinstatement of General Director of Petroleum with Different Powers Raises Questions of Ministers Combining More Than One Portfolio and Poses Problems in View of Lebanese Administration's Decisions"]

[Text] George Afram, the Lebanese minister of industry and oil, has practically voided all of the administrative decisions adopted by his predecessor, Muhammad Yusuf Baydun. Afram has reinstated Ibrahim al-Shuwayri, the general director of petroleum, as chairman of the Tripoli Petroleum Installations Commission and empowered him to conclude all kinds of contracts, in addition to delegating all administrative authority to him.

Whoever familiarizes himself with the details of the authority delegated to al-Shuwayri will realize that Minister George Afram no longer has any connection with the ministry of oil and that he has no wish to deal with its affairs.

The authority that al-Shuwayri has reassumed recalls the authority he had under former Ministers Michel Dumit and Salim al-Huss, as well as Minister Anwar al-Sabbah. Regardless of the correctness or incorrectness of the decisions made by Minister Afram, these decisions dictate that the following fundamental observations be underlined:

1. Afram's position does not emanate from his conviction of the soundness of his decisions and does not reflect his disinterest in petroleum affairs. This position does in fact reflect Minister Afram's deep feeling that he cannot encompass the two dual ministries entrusted to him, namely the Ministry of Industry and Oil and the Ministry of Post & Telecommunications. Each of the two ministries is in turn divided into two ministries. Moreover, each of these ministries handles diverse and difficult affairs aggravated by the events. The industry is in a mournful state and the telephone has its numerous and complex problems.

2. What Minister Afram has faced confirms the soundness of what was said when the cabinet was formed, namely, that it is better to entrust each minister with a single portfolio so that he can devote his efforts to it and

succeed in it. To a large extent, the ministries have become equal in importance. Moreover, the Lebanese administration became so flabby during the events that it requires that a single portfolio be entrusted to each minister so that he can try to revitalize it.

3. The minister's delegation of authority to the general director is something that requires reflection. Should the minister do this? If the minister is permitted to do so legally, then is he permitted logically, especially when we know that the minister is as accountable for his management as he is accountable politically?

4. The reinstatement of al-Shuwayri as chairman of petroleum installations voids a fundamental decision made by Muhammad Yusuf Baydun, the previous minister. The previous decision had aroused between Baydun and al-Shuwayri a dispute that was referred to the Legislation and Consultation Authority, which ruled in favor of Baydun on the basis that it is impermissible to combine the general directorship of petroleum with chairmanship of Tripoli Petroleum Installations. If this ruling has any legal meaning, then how can it be torpedoed with the mere change of a minister and what happens to the credibility of the rulings issued by this authority or others?

5. A minister's nullification of what was done by a previous minister voids the principle of continuity that must prevail in the administration, thus creating flaws and complications and turning administrative action into separate eras.

6. Ibrahim al-Shuwayri, who is known to be an honest man, is also known to be temperamental, uncooperative and suspicious of everybody around him. He either has to control everything, as he did at the time of Ministers Michel Dumit and Salim al-Huss, or he will retreat completely and stop working, as he did at the time of Minister Muhammad Yusuf Baydun, or he will be secretly or openly engaged in a constant tug-of-war, as happened when he tried to work with Minister Anwar al-Sabbah.

7. The return of al-Shuwayri as the absolute master over the petroleum sector brings to mind the years 1977-80 when there were recurrent fuel crises. This is not meant to cast doubt on al-Shuwayri's ability as much as it is meant to point out the complications contained in this sector and its intricate and entwined structure, beginning with the refineries and ending with the owners of fuel tanker trucks and gas stations.

The Lebanese oil sector deals annually with more than 1 billion Lebanese pounds comprising the cost of deals to import crude oil and other oil derivatives. This figure is topped only by the budget figures for the Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of National Education.

Therefore, what is required at present, as in the past, whether al-Shuwayri or others are in charge, is to establish a higher petroleum affairs authority or to enact the provision for the Central Energy Commission. A decree for the creation of this commission was issued by the last cabinet session held under the term of former President Ilyas Sarkis.

This commission is required not only to control the existing conditions and to confront the fuel mafias but also to reexamine the structure of this sector from the ground up in terms of production, marketing and distribution and to block all of the loops and gaps through which the opportunists penetrate to exploit the powerless consumer.

There remains the following fact to point out: Minister George Afram was, before becoming minister, foremost among the businessmen demanding total abolition of the subsidy for fuels. He repeatedly said that the subsidy drains the treasury, does the citizen no good and does not bolster the economy. Does Minister Afram still hold the same position and will his "giving up" the tasks of the ministry enable him to implement his previous position or exercise his new conviction?

8494

CSO: 4404/120

BRIEFS

MEDIA CONTROLS--A special file has been prepared for the organizational legislation which the state has decided to issue by legislative decrees. This legislation concerns the various Lebanese media in the private and public sectors. The most important headings included in this file which is now before the high-ranking officials, particularly President Amin al-Jumayyil, are as follows: First, a decree to abolish the private broadcasting stations set up during the events. It is well known that the best known of these stations are the Phalanges' station (Voice of Lebanon), al-Murabitun station (Voice of Arab Lebanon) and the Ihdin station (Free and Unified Lebanon) which is supervised by ex-President Sulayman Franjiyah. Second, reorganize the Lebanese press conditions and reexamine the situation of the Lebanese papers within the framework of a comprehensive organization. Third, reorganize the Lebanese television conditions and establish a new and advanced television transmission system to insure covering all the Lebanese territories. Fourth, issue a new law to merge the Lebanese press and editors unions and to give consideration to establishing a union of the publishers of papers and publications who are not journalists. [Text] [Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic No 301, 27 Nov 82 p 18] 8494

NEW EMBASSY IN RIYADH--Dr Eli Salim, the minister of foreign affairs, has notified Prince Salman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the governor of Riyadh, that it has been decided to build a new Lebanese embassy in Riyadh and that Philip Trad, the dean of the Lebanese community in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, has been entrusted with this task. It has been noticed that in the statement he made upon conclusion of the summit proceedings, President al-Jumayyil was eager to stress the role of the Lebanese community in achieving the country's development projects through their role in the countries where they exist. [Text] [Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic No 300, 20 Nov 82 p 16] 8494

CSO: 4404/120

ISRAELI REPRESSION OF WEST BANK EDUCATION DISCUSSED

Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 20 Dec 82 p 26

[Article: "Some Light on Educational Conditions in Government Schools on the Bank"]

[Text] The General Committee of Government Schoolteachers on the West Bank has issued a memorandum on the Educational situation in government schools on the West Bank at the start of the 1982-83 academic year, reviewing the difficulties facing teachers vocationally and in terms of their living standard and describing the different aspects of the shortcomings the schools are suffering from in general.

In the memorandum, it was stated that the General Committee of Government Schoolteachers on the West Bank, in an attempt on its part to shed light on certain practices in the past with the beginning of the current academic year, notes the following:

First: Teachers

A. The vocational situation: the teachers' committees, in spite of the obstacles facing them, consider themselves the defenders of the rights of teachers, in view of the absence of a teachers' union. On this subject, they appeal to the teaching public to rally around their committees and be careful to renew membership in them, so that their activity may continue and various educational questions may be monitored.

Since its elections, the general committee has been concerned to follow up on the establishment of a teachers' union. Its most recent endeavor was to present a request to officials at the end of the last academic year, accompanied by the names of the founding board of the union; however, it has not yet received any answer from the officials.

A Teachers' Union Is a Basic Demand

The general committee would also like to draw the attention of the teaching public to the authorities' procrastination in responding to certain issues the committee has been monitoring over the past year. This requires that the teachers' statements be unified and that pressure be exerted on behalf of their receiving their rights to establish a union of their own, which will look after their material and vocational rights.

B. The level of the living standard: the authorities bear the responsibility of providing citizens with a dignified life, in accordance with international compacts, but, nonetheless, the teachers are suffering from bad living conditions as a result of the deterioration in their salaries, which are in no way compatible with the prices of basic necessities.

The average teacher's salary in the educational system comes to about 8,000 shekels. This average is less than one half the amount necessary to provide the necessities for a family consisting of four people, which exceed 19,000 shekels. The authorities' procrastination in improving teachers' salaries is in one way or another helping to increase peoples' vexations, and this is reflected in negative form on the educational system and is draining the educational system of various specialized personnel.

The general committee, as it describes the true nature of the teachers' poor living standard, calls upon all people who are responsible for this situation [to remedy] their living conditions so that they will be able seriously to improve the performance of their educational mission as thoroughly as possible.

Retirement Cases

Since the teachers have been exercising their right to strike, the authorities have been continuing to persecute them and seek to punish them by various means. The past academic year, they compulsorily transferred a number of teachers to retirement. The ball has returned once again, and, with the start of the current academic year, they have transferred an additional number who are connected with the teachers' vocational activity, and others whose transfer they claim is for security reasons. Both instances are increasing the removal of people of scholarly competence from the educational system. The names of 51 male and female teachers of various areas of the West Bank have been put on this list.

Arbitrary Dismissal

Twenty-one male and female teachers have been dismissed from service while no reasons to justify that were expressed.

Arbitrary Transfer

The civil service statute bearing on education stipulates that the process of transferring teachers must take two matters of the utmost importance into consideration: the interests of the student, who is the focal point of the educational process, and the interests of the teacher, who is the person carrying this process out.

Instead of observing these statutes, the authorities have proceeded to transfer a number of teachers to districts which are far removed from their places of residence. The committees had previously described the danger latent in the process of transferring teachers, and the names of 41 male and female teachers who have been compulsorily transferred in various provinces on the bank have been listed.

It is worth pointing out that some of the teachers whose names were listed have been transferred to remote areas where some of them have had to pay high transportation costs as a result of going from their places of residence to their places of work.

The teacher Yusuf 'Abdallah Abu 'Umayr says, "I pay 20 shekels to go from Bayt 'Awa' to Hebron then 30 shekels to go from Hebron to al-Zahiriyyah, as I go to my school, and the same amount returning - and sometimes more, if I am compelled to take a taxi. I pay close to 3,000 shekels in transportation costs out of my salary, while I receive 1,500 shekels for transportation costs.

Other Problems Facing Teachers

Some teachers suffer from certain educational problems. These are embodied in freezes on the grades of some, and their failure to get promoted, and demotions in grade in the case of others, although they have educational ability, according to the teaching reports that have been submitted concerning them.

The authorities have also so far been refusing to pay vocational raises to teachers who have put in more than 15 years of service, in accordance with the civil service statute, and some teachers, from time to time, are subjected to imprisonment and house arrest. A number of members of teachers' committees have faced that sort of punishment.

Second: Students

Since the students constitute a part of the people, share the nation with them, and share the expression of their rejection of everything they face, in the form of various protests, they are also exposed to punishment.

The committees of secondary students, as a trade union staff following up on the daily problems of students and striving to solve many of them, are also exposed to vexations and the imposition of obstacles in their path.

This sector has numerous problems, and the general committee, in reviewing these problems, believes that solidarity in the struggle for the students' and teachers' demands will ensure that the measures taken against them will be stopped and their educational problems will be solved.

Among these problems are:

Crowded classrooms and the need to open new branches.

Teachers and students alike complain about the phenomenon of classrooms crowded with students, especially at the primary level, where three or four students sit on a single seat, creating problems for teachers, especially those who are teaching courses that require surveillance over the students' writing. One English language instructor says, "I cannot walk around among the students to oversee their writing, in a room no more than four by six in size, into which 45 students have been packed."

The village of al-Zahiriyyah has been going through a suffocating crisis because of the small number of school classrooms. The Abu 'Ubaydah elementary boys' school and the al-Zahiriyyah girls' school, whose classes number 27 and whose students number 1,250, still do not have classrooms, now that the students have been chased out of the rooms that were rented out. When a group of young people assumed the onus of solving this problem and collected some money from the people

of the village for the construction of schools, they were confronted with a ban on the completion of these projects.

In addition, there is a shortage of 12 classrooms in the two al-Zahiriyah secondary schools for boys and girls.

The second and third preparatory classes were shut down in the al-Zayr preparatory school in the Bethlehem area, and the students were diverted to other schools in Bethlehem.

The Sa'ir girls' preparatory school is suffering from a shortage of classrooms and, in order to solve the problem, the educational committee is resorting to renting out rooms. There are 10 rented rooms in the school and a group of female students went home at the start of the school year because there were no classrooms.

The Sa'ir boys' primary school was renting out two classrooms the last school year. The school was surprised when the local committee belonging to the League of Villages took them over and turned them into a local council.

The students in the fifth elementary grade still do not have a classroom and are studying under the trees in the open air.

In the al-Tur and West al-Sawarihah boys' schools, there are some classes in shelters that lack ventilation and are also cold, which all causes ailments in the form of nearsightedness and rheumatism.

In the al-Sawahirah girls' school, where the number of students comes to 900, the school is apportioned among residential buildings that are more than a kilometer apart. There are classrooms in rooms that were originally built as commercial storage areas. The al-Rashidiyah, al-Ma'muniyah and 'Abdallah ibn al-Husayn schools in Jerusalem suffer from the inability to absorb the increasing numbers of students, and, in view of the scant space in the private schools, hundreds of students are not completing their secondary schooling.

Classrooms and Facilities

At the beginning of this academic year, the educational officer and the governor of Ramallah spoke, and both asserted that everything in the schools was as it ought to be and every form of equipment was available. However, anyone following the conditions in the schools since 1967 can see that new buildings were built for schools only in cases that were no more numerous than the fingers on one's hand and that many of the old schools, especially in the towns, were in no way fit to function as classrooms for several reasons, among them:

1. These schools were originally designed as dwellings. The areas of the rooms do not exceed 4 [meters] in width and 5 [meters] in length, and 40 to 50 students are packed into them.
2. Some of them are on the verge of collapse because of their large number of cracks, which are a source of moisture and pools of water in the winter season.

3. Some of them are situated in areas which are not suited to be school sites because of the presence of factories and the noise surrounding them.

4. In some of the schools there is not even a mere playground in which the students can engage in athletic activities.

These are some examples, not exclusive ones, which will give a clear picture of the degree to which officials' statements are in keeping with the tangible state of affairs in our schools.

In the survey which Bethlehem University conducted on secondary schools, [in] which Prof Khalil Mahshi of Bir Zayt University used some figures from a study he prepared in February 1981, it is evident that just 53 percent of these schools had a library room or a library room which was something else besides a library, and 47 percent had laboratory equipment or laboratory facilities.

The al-Burj, Bayt 'Awa', Dayr al-'Asal and Bayt Maryam schools are situated on the front lines in the Hebron area. The teachers there assert that they have no playgrounds where one can engage in athletic activities, nor are there any libraries or laboratories in them, and the health units in all schools are in bad condition, especially in the various [sic] schools.

In the Sa'ir elementary school, some rooms were originally designed as places for raising poultry and are now being used as classrooms, as a result of the extreme shortage of classrooms.

In the ibn Rushd school, there is a rudimentary laboratory that is lacking some of the necessary equipment and materials in a room below ground level from which moisture emanates.

In other schools, such as al-Muhammadiyah and Dawra-al-Majd, the students hear nothing of laboratories but the name.

The al-Muhammadiyah elementary school in the city of Hebron, as an integrated example of the other schools, is an old building on the verge of collapse whose rooms are interconnected, and this is disturbing to students and teachers during classes. It is surrounded by a textile plant and a woodworkers' shop. Its playground is of dirt and is not enclosed. The instruction in the school takes place over two periods, in the morning and evening, now that the Usamah ibn Munqidh school has been occupied by the army and its students have been transferred to al-Muhammadiyah.

As regards the circulars that are regularly received from the education officer, in which the presence of certain books in school libraries is proscribed, these libraries now consist of nothing but the books which are stipulated in the curriculum itself.

11887

CSO: 4404/159

WEST BANK UNIVERSITY LEADER DISCUSSES ISRAELI INTENTIONS, POLICIES

Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 23 Dec 82 p 7

[Article by Nabil 'Amr: "Hikmat al-Misri, Head of the Board of Trustees of al-Najah University in Nabulus, to AL-DUSTUR: One Must Proceed Realistically and Not Lose the Opportunities That Arise"]

[Text] Mr Hikmat al-Misri, former chairman of the Jordanian parliament and chairman of the board of trustees of the al-Najah National University, who has come from the occupied nation to Amman, stated "The restoration of solidarity between the Palestinian and Jordanian peoples, and coordination and rapprochement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization, our sole legitimate representative, are a basic matter in smoothing the way to a solution to the Palestinian cause, and that will be in the interests of the Palestinian people and in the interests of the Jordanian people also, because the threat hovering over Palestine is the same as that hovering over Jordan."

Mr al-Misri, in a special conversation with AL-DUSTUR, added that it was true that the Palestinian cause was first and foremost a Jordanian cause as well, because of the distinctive relationship between the Jordanian and Palestinian people and by virtue of the historic and geographical interconnection between the two banks of the Jordan River, which gives Jordan a distinctive role, and a particular interest in finding a solution to the Palestinian cause, which is different from the role and interests of any other Arab country or other Arab or even international party.

The Crossroads

Mr al-Misri went on to say, "The Palestinian cause is now at the crossroads and in the next few months events could occur which will determine the destiny of the region and the cause. Whether that is or is not in the interests of the cause, naturally we do not want to let the opportunity pass by, lest it be said that the Palestinians are always unrealistic and have rejected all the solutions presented to them."

He went on to say, "Following the events in Lebanon, there are now radical changes on the stage which will require a review of our policies. It has become very essential that we proceed realistically and objectively and not lose opportunities, as happened in 1939 when we lost the opportunity presented by the white paper at the London conference attended by representatives of the Arab

High Commission and representatives of the Arab countries. That would have given us more than 60 per cent of the government and would have stopped the immigration and infiltration onto our territory."

He said, "I now believe that the circumstances are harsher than in 1939, because now all of Palestine is under Israeli occupation and the threat to it is intense. One can state that it is now at the edge of the abyss, especially in the face of the concentrated onslaught of settlements and the continued process of land appropriation and infiltration, and that the Israelis are working rapidly to impose the settlements. Because they cannot find new Jewish immigrants, they have started bringing in Jewish inhabitants from that part of Palestine that was occupied in 1948 and to get them to reside in the settlements on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip."

Palestinian Demands

Mr al-Misri added "Solutions have been presented, such as the Fez plan and the Reagan plan, and we must work to exploit these circumstances, striving to turn the approaches these plans take to our benefit - provided that we do not deviate from our demand for a full Israeli withdrawal from the territory occupied in 1967, including the city of Jerusalem, and for the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people, which constitutes the minimum Palestinian demand. By virtue of the fact that I live in the occupied territories and have strong relations with various elements of the Palestinian people on the occupied territories, these demands are expressive of the opinion of the overwhelming majority."

He stated, "If there are any other opinions, we believe in freedom of opinion and democratic, constructive dialogue on foundations of objectivity and reality, free from bickering, accusations or slander, because I do not believe that there is a single Palestinian who does not want to be rid of the occupation. If there are some manifestations of deviation, they are of no significance."

He went on to state, "In some of its features, the Palestinian National Charter stipulates that adherence to the Palestine nation takes precedence over all other forms of affiliation. Therefore, we must act with a scientific, nationalistic mentality, far removed from anarchy and fanaticism."

When we asked Mr al-Misri about the Palestinian peace compact that is being prepared in the occupied homeland, he answered by stating, "The compact is still being discussed and dealt with; in its contents, it does not depart from the general context that we spoke of at the start of the conversation."

The Reagan Plan

On the Reagan plan, the American guarantees and the extent to which they offer scope for entering into negotiations and the search for peace, Mr Hikmat al-Misri said, "We must indeed seek to unearth the American position and the extent to which it is serious, able to move the occupation out and stop the Israeli settlement process and the processes of appropriating and devouring land."

Regarding his view on the Reagan plan for peace in the Middle East as a whole, Mr al-Misri said:

"There is no doubt in my opinion that there are very important bases contained in the Reagan plan, among the most important and prominent of which is the suspension of the settlement process. I can state frankly that if we can at the outset stop the settlement process, as America has promised in its plan, there will be the initial signs of confidence that America is actually serious in executing its plan."

He added, "I have been saying for many years, especially in recent years, that it would have been enough for the Arab countries to seek, at the stage when there were no solutions, a suspension of the settlement process, because the most dangerous thing facing the occupied areas is the settlements, and stopping the settlement process would not just involve the ordinary occupation — it would also mean making Israel miss an opportunity to judaize the territory. We would have dissipated their hopes of creating a fait accompli, especially since they are working to usurp our land so that we cannot find anything to negotiate for."

Mr al-Misri continued his conversation by saying, "The Reagan initiative includes a rejection of Israeli sovereignty over the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, which, if the Americans are serious, will have the effect of terminating the occupation. One should bear in mind that there are some obscure points in the Reagan plan, such as the phrase 'secure borders,' which is an elastic phrase that the Israelis can interpret as they like, keeping the land they want to retain. This is to be totally rejected, for our part, and we will not accept it."

He said, "Israel's withdrawal from the 1967 borders means its retention of about 83 percent of the territory of Palestine, and only 17 percent will be left for us. Security and secure borders will not come about through our participation in this modest part of Palestine but will come about through a comprehensive peace and a just solution."

Mr al-Misri declared, "Our understanding of the United Nations resolutions, including Resolutions 242 and 338, is Israeli withdrawal from the Arab territories that were occupied in 1967 and not the change in the form of the resolution that Israel is trying to achieve by stating 'withdrawal from occupied Arab territories.' All in all, one can state that we will not accept the loss of territory, and we must seek seriously to regain it, through logic and objectivity."

Regarding circumstances people are going through in the occupied homeland, Mr al-Misri said, "Talking about Israeli practices against Arab citizens, which are everyday practices, has become futile, because the practices occur repeatedly and the people are living in the context of an occupation that is stripping them of everything, so what can they do? I do not believe that the circumstances and conditions of the people are a secret to anyone."

Egypt and the Arabs

On the importance of having Egypt return to Arab ranks in the critical circumstances which the Arab nation is passing through:

Mr al-Misri said, "Our most cherished hope is that Egypt will return to the Arab ranks, the way it was before Camp David, because, without Egypt, all Arab activity will be unintegrated. Egypt has a great role, and its return to Arab ranks, and the return of the Arab ranks to Egypt, is to be considered a basic matter if one is to transcend the current stage, which is marked by very great difficulty."

Al-Najah University

A conversation with Mr Hikmat al-Misri, as a long-standing political personality and a prominent Palestinian figure who has been living in the occupied territories, cannot stop at a given point. However, the nature of this stage is a delicate one, there are many things the next few days will bring forth, and we did not want to outstrip events in our conversation.

Therefore, it was necessary to end the conversation with Mr al-Misri by casting a quick glance at conditions in the al-Najah National University in Nabulus, whose board of trustees Mr al-Misri heads and which is suffering from an Israeli attack to empty it of capable academic figures by banishing more than 25 of its professors, including its president.

Mr al-Misri said, "The al-Najah University is the biggest university in Palestine. It has about 3,400 students and is considered a miracle, especially since it started at zero. We will continue to carry out our mission and the university will finish performing its mission, no matter what the difficulties are. Nor will the banishment of professors stop the progress of this scholarly and cultural edifice."

He added, "We will work with all the means available to us, and through all channels, to abrogate what the occupation authorities have called the 'commitment document,' which is considered by Israel as just a feeble excuse to empty the university, and the other universities in Palestine, of their academic staffs, which could influence the course of higher education in the occupied territories."

He concluded his talk by saying, "The board of trustees of al-Najah National University, which insists that university study must continue at the university, will consistently strive for the necessary return of the professors whom the occupation authorities have banished."

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CSO: 4404/159

PREMIER DISCUSSES 1982 PLAN GOALS, ACHIEVEMENTS

Damascus AL-BATH in Arabic 13 Dec 82 pp 2, 11

[Article: "Statement by Comrade al-Kasim before the People's Assembly on Progress in the Execution of the 1982 Development Plan"]

[Excerpt] Mr Chairman of the People's Assembly:

Lady and gentleman members:

As we are presenting your honorable assembly today with a report on the progress of the execution of this country's development plan in 1982:

We must register our total appreciation of the productive relationship and fruitful cooperation between the government and the People's Assembly, whose constant discussion, numerous observations and assumption of the criticism of the most minute details have been a means for enriching every step, at every moment, with the necessary elements for uplifting conditions in a country that is being built up by every person's arms, for serving people who exalt every fighting man and perseverant soul, for preserving Syria as a source of the rays of the cause — and how many hands stretch out to extinguish them! — and for maintaining Syria as the passionate political-military front, the front which is always passionate in its strength, awareness and pride, under the leadership of the fighting President Hafiz al-Asad.

We cannot dismiss from our minds and our estimation any of their results of the hardships of the great, significant events which the region has been witnessing this year, which have interacted in every direction and have been in ferment with all the conditions that surround us, nor can we dismiss all the necessary rapid and concentrated adjustments that the development and grave potentialities of these events require, in order that we may confront the entire state of affairs and concentrate our material and moral activities on every front where we see an enemy presence or conspiratorial movement seeking to work its way into Syria, the citadel of progress and socialism.

This is natural, because when this great nation, with its masses, who are aware and closely knit, while it was waiting for slow, hesitant or evasive persons where there was no room to wait, decided to bear the entire national responsibility for a deficient or deliberately weakened Arab situation, when it decided to protect the Palestinian cause and defend Lebanese territory and when it

determined to make the Syrian presence, with its firm principles, an Arab condition of radical premises and positions, no American camp, no Israeli aggression and no domestic conspiracy could bring it down, divert it from its course or outstrip it, nor will any be able to do so.

The Continuation of the Course of Development

By virtue of the interrelations of all the circumstances, Syria's economic and political responsibility in 1982 was weighted down with increasing burdens - burdens which have been said and still are being aggravated by events. In the face of that, there was no way to avoid following an approach of comprehensive means and assured results in order to assume that the course of development domestically would continue toward its goals and would not lose the force of its upsurge, on the one hand, and, in on the other, that it would be kept away from the infringements of pressures.

With reliance on all the working and producing persons in this lofty country, and through a genuine nationalist response which never is extinguished among the multitudes, a force to propel, organize, coordinate and adapt the efforts, resources and capabilities this country possesses was unleashed, and the goals and outlines of the movement of growth, construction and development were accompanied by the strategy stipulated for 1982.

Be confident, brothers, that the distinctive economic and productive effort which every citizen and every official has contributed to has constituted a good, beneficial experiment, since the political and economic decisionmaking process has been of use in transcending every obstacle. When general efforts bore fruit, the success that accompanied every proper orientation or vision was a valuable sign and sound index in this nation, which fights, struggles and makes unlimited sacrifices. The annual growth rates in the various sectors of agriculture, industry, and services were in keeping with the goals that had been planned for them. They without a doubt merit appreciation and thanks for the working and productive people in the organizations, installations, factories, and utilities of the public sector, those people who in their worksites were watching vigilantly over the public interest and the power that forges miracles. Yes, every worker and peasant, every technician and engineer, and, along with them, the leaders in the centers of management and production - all of them were struggling and fighting in their field, just as every officer, noncommissioned officer and soldier in this country was fighting honorably and heroically in every battle he waged. In brief, in plain words, we can assert that the progress in 1982, because it was a progress replete with difficulties, was distinguished by a number of phenomena, of which the most conspicuous were five which embraced the various features of overall emergency circumstances and existing probabilities with a plan endowed with vision and competence. One may summarize these five phenomena as follows:

The Basic Role of Local Resources

1. The major, growing role was given to local resources, those which were available, potential, and newly created. They were then used in the optimum manner, in ways that would respond to a strategic aspiration that made it certain to us that that role would continue to be, and must continue to be, the actual buttress of the domestic economy.

Increasing and Improving Production

2. This effective role was accompanied by a basic qualitative and quantitative increase in production, the general application of firm, direct forms of quality control, the increasing application of product specifications and standards, and the elimination, at increasing rates, of the different forms of waste of human, financial and mechanical powers that had prevailed in the past.

Economic Cohesion among the Various Sectors

3. The existence of a successful, practical conception which led to the attainment of the maximum degree of economic cohesion among the various productive and consumer sectors, reliance on the conclusions of economic studies within individual activities on the one hand and in diverse activities on the other, and the linkup of all that to a permanent tendency to assign preferences among projects, perforce directing the economic structure toward an increasing tendency toward harmony, so that procedures could be standardized, solutions could be made consonant and chronic difficulties and accumulated errors could be eliminated, and so that the economic system, with its productive, financial, commercial and consumer foundations and its advanced administrative components, could evolve into an economic entity that was governed more than in the past by the relationships, orientations and variables imposed upon it by constant integration.

An Increase in Financial Resources

4. The direct, tangible reflection of the basic, growing role of domestic resources on the available financial resources, which we referred to above. These resources recorded an important, conspicuous increase through the pursuit of a platform that was required for the sake of liberation from all the forms of economic or financial imbalance and indices that had become familiar in the world markets, accompanying that with another platform of increasing accuracy and comprehensiveness in limiting imports, encouraging exports, expanding the parallel export market, continuing to carry out a firm foreign sector plan, and following up economic guidance in form and substance in all fields.

A Review of Legislation and Statutes

5. The linkup of these phenomena with a style of critical leadership which manifested itself through comprehensive measures in the context of the review of legislation and statutes which are inadequate in responding to the needs of production, development and integration, constant emphasis on the avoidance of the bureaucratic spirit and traditional concepts, the suppression of obstacles and bottlenecks wherever they may appear through rapid, decisive solutions, the intensification of surveillance and accountability, the refusal to treat negligent or harmful persons tolerantly, and the elimination of all sources of disruption.

This policy, in the context of these orientations, expressed radical progress in enabling and honoring the value of labor and production, eliminating parasitical tendencies and unfruitful activities, and directing these toward fruitful areas within society as a whole.

Brothers, proceeding from the salient points we have mentioned and based on the attained results during 1982, we can set forth, through the detailed report that is before you, the basic facts, some of which I will refer to in my talk whenever that is necessary, thereby offering ways by which you can discuss overall activity in other economic sectors and the service sector.

Before I address myself to the economic field, I can only refer, most succinctly, to certain results in the realm of organization, administration and legislation. These include the following:

1. Local Administration

An interrelated group of measures were taken to develop the statute on local administration. Successive organizational declarations were issued through which a transition was made to an important stage in which the principle of decentralization is being applied, the bases of popular democracy are being implanted, and the role of the local authorities and councils is being consolidated. We can say that local administration has assumed its tasks and jurisdiction in the execution investment projects in municipalities of various grades. It has also assumed its tasks in a broad area in which schools and hospitals were built, work was carried out in the context of housing and utilities, cultural services were offered, contributions were made in the areas of supply and internal trade and the construction of roads, contributions were also made in the social and agricultural sector, a number of work and water resource missions were undertaken, and increased job opportunities were provided in all provinces. The investments allocated to these came to almost 1.02 billion Syrian pounds. Local administration offered subsidies to municipalities in the country equal to 600 million Syrian pounds, 105 million Syrian pounds to health projects, 326 million Syrian pounds to housing and utilities projects, 321 million Syrian pounds to the construction of roads, 24 million Syrian pounds to cultural projects, 25 million Syrian pounds to social centers, 82 million Syrian pounds to works and water resource projects and 165 million Syrian pounds to agriculture. The allocations set aside for provincial councils in 1982 came to 1.99 billion Syrian pounds. Thus local administration came to take pioneering steps through its comprehensive role.

2. Legislation and the Judiciary

In this field the 1982 plan was integrated with the 1980 and 1981 measures, reflecting comprehensive improvement in the conditions of judges, courts and court services. This year, numerous courts were created, new judges were appointed, and the drafts of new laws were executed. After this reference, let me get back to economic matters, to agriculture, industry and services. These are as follows:

First: Agriculture, Irrigation, Reclamation and Dams

As regards the results of the 1982 plan and the policies and measures adopted, although the final evaluation will be made after the year itself has elapsed, realistic indices, on the basis of achievements made and projects completed, emphasize that gross product for 1982, in 1980 prices, has been 99 percent realized.

In the sector of agriculture and irrigation, the rate of attainment of the product targeted came to 96 percent. The rate of wheat production came to 92 percent, while in 1981 it was 136 percent - the year 1982 had less rain than 1981. The rate of cotton production came to 96 percent, that of sugar beets 108 percent, and that of milk, red meat, poultry, eggs, and fish 100 percent. Poultry and cattle projects were completed; 185,000 hectares were set out and recorded and 150,000 hectares were categorized. A review was made of land reclamation priorities in the Euphrates Basin areas, in a manner that was in keeping with the economics of each project, and the winter irrigation project on the Jaghjagh and al-Khabur Rivers was carried out. Work is continuing on the regulating dam. The power generated by the Euphrates electric facility came to 2,617,850,000 kilowatt hours in 1981, while it will reach 2.85 billion kilowatt hours by the end of 1982. Work is continuing on the construction of surface dams in the provinces, the drilling of wells in the desert, and the planting of fruit and forest trees. One can refer to the details in the report.

Second: Industry

The value of production in public industrial companies so far in 1982 totals 6,045,000,000 Syrian pounds, as compared with 4,657,000,000 Syrian pounds in 1981, or an increase of 18 percent. The rate of increase in the textile industries in 1982 was 29 percent over the 1981 level, in foodstuffs it was 29 percent, in machine manufacture it was 15 percent, in chemicals it was 66 percent, in cement it was 36 percent, in sugar it was 100 percent and in the Euphrates Tractor [Company] it was 15 percent.

The profits of the General Foodstuff Industries Organization Companies this year were 53.5 million Syrian pounds, those of the General Machinery Industries Organizations 162.5 million Syrian pounds, those of the General Textile Industries Organizations 159 million Syrian pounds, those of the General Chemical Industries Company 162.5 million Syrian pounds, those of the General Cement Organization 171.5 million Syrian pounds, those of the Agricultural Machinery Distribution Company 21 million Syrian pounds, and those of the Euphrates Tractor Company 30 million Syrian pounds.

The projects that entered the actual production cycle are the Latakia textile, al-Hasakah yarn, Idlib yarn, al-Hasakah canning, al-Mayadin canning, Idlib canning, Aleppo battery casing, Aleppo cable factory, Aleppo electric light factory, Damascus oxygen plant, Damascus quadriaxial telephone cable, Latakia foundry, Hums ammonia urea and Hamah tire projects. The first and second production lines of the Tartus cement project have started operating.

Third: The Financial System

Thanks to the elimination of accumulated tax and accumulated accounting work and the performance of a comprehensive real estate survey following the application of Income Tax Law 21 for 1980, which takes real profits as the basis for the assessment of costs, increased actual investigations into financial revenues reached results of 5.5 billion Syrian pounds in 1980 and 6.7 billion Syrian pounds in 1981. Meanwhile, at the end of this year, they will total 9 billion Syrian pounds. This is a major, significant turning point in the process of increasing financial revenues through the attainment of an equitable

assessment of costs and the elimination of accumulated work. In addition, a review was made of the statutes on contracts in the administration and economic sectors as an organizational step.

Fourth: Foreign Trade and Banks

Foreign trade was the object of attention this year. In this area, basic measures were taken in principle which resulted in limiting the imports of a number of luxury and nonessential materials and commodities, a plan for foreign currency was carried out with respect to the public and private sectors, the inflated balance of payments deficit was reduced, a review was made of some special statutes such as [those on] investment in the free zones and ordinary and exceptional temporary savings, firm bases were set out for credit, security and other facilities, and scope was expanded for domestic products delivered to the parallel market. These measures, as well as increasing production, have led to a strengthening of the position of Syrian currency relative to foreign currencies. In addition, priority in bank financing has been given to the activities of the agricultural and industrial sectors.

Interest on savings deposits and investment certificates has also been raised. This has resulted in the absorption of a portion of surplus buying power, since deposits in the postal savings fund increased by 180 million Syrian pounds in 1982 over 1981, and its total savings reached 866 Syrian pounds. Total investment certificate savings came to 1.5 billion as compared with 1,133,000,000 Syrian pounds in 1981, or an increase of 367 million Syrian pounds. Deposits in popular lending banks came to 1.15 billion pounds as compared with 900 million Syrian pounds in 1981, or an increase of 250 million Syrian pounds. In addition, there was an improvement in tax receipts, a tourist rate was established, and the flow of foreign currency into banks increased. The special measures resulted in a limitation on the supply of Syrian currency in foreign markets and the activity of foreign trade organizations increased, and this was all followed by various measures to protect domestic production, limit raw materials exports in the desire to process them locally and export them, and create incentives for the private sector to enter further into the realm of productive projects.

Fifth: Oil and Mineral Resources

Production of the Syrian Petroleum Company came to 6,843,097 tons of Syrian crude oil, for a 100 percent rate of plan execution. Production at the end of 1982 will come to 8.15 million tons. The Hums refinery processed 2,251,433 tons of Syrian crude oil, for a 100 percent rate of plan execution, and the Baniyas refinery processed 933,934 tons of Syrian crude oil, for a 100 percent rate of plan execution. This is in addition to imported crude that was refined. The Oil Transportation Company shifted 7,567,056 tons and the Syrian Oil Transport Company shifted 14,517,798 tons. These figures concern production up to 31 October 1982. Our discussion, so far, has been in the various areas of agriculture and industry, but, in addition to that, it has been necessary for the government to offer the people services that have a direct relationship to their daily life. In the area of services, we can summarize the efforts in 1982 as follows:

First: Security of Supply and Domestic Trade

The domestic trade institutions are constantly evolving. The distribution network, storage depots, sales centers and showrooms have grown. In 1982, 174,000 tons of bread were produced, as compared with the production of 114,000 tons in 1981. The internal trade companies and organizations made profits. The General Organization for Domestic Metals and Building Materials Trade, 'Umran, made 92.5 million Syrian pounds, the General Shoe Company made 2 million Syrian pounds, the General Grain Silo and Seed and Fodder Exploitation Company made 33.5 million Syrian pounds, the General Fruit and Vegetable Company made 20 million Syrian pounds, the General Storage and Refrigeration Company made 6.5 million Syrian pounds, the General Retail Trade Company earned 14 million pounds, the General Textile Production Distribution Company, Jindis, made about 7 million Syrian pounds, the General Grain Trade and Processing Organization made about 2 million Syrian pounds, and the General Publications Distribution Organization made about 2 million Syrian pounds. On this occasion, let me point out that the foreign trade organizations have also realized profits. The profits of the General Foreign Machinery and Equipment Trade Organization came to about 37 million Syrian pounds, those of the Metal and Construction Materials Organizations about 34 million Syrian pounds, those of the Foodstuffs [Company] 10 million Syrian pounds, those of the Textile Materials [Company] six million Syrian pounds, those of the General Trade and distribution Company Ghawtah 2 million Syrian pounds, the free zones 8 million Syrian pounds, and the Military Social Organization 10 million Syrian pounds. This indicates that the principle of commercial and economic profitability has started to grow and expand in noticeable form as far as all companies and commercial organizations go.

Second: Electricity, Water, Transportation, Housing and Utilities

In this area, new transformer stations have been put in operation, a large number of existing plants have been enlarged, 89 percent of the villages for which plans had been made have been electrified, and the country's output, up to 31 December 1982, will come to 5,245,000,000 kilowatt hours, whereas production in 1981 came to 4,425,000,000 kilowatt hours; this is an increase of 18 percent. The country's peak power production came to 1,037 megawatts. In the realm of potable water, an increase of water production equal to 10 percent over that for 1981 was realized and the proportion of beneficiaries in the cities came to 95 percent of the population, while in the rural areas that rose to 64 percent of the population. In the area of housing, 5,000 housing units were constructed in the provinces and a large number of organizational and topographical maps were made. For example, the money spent on housing in 1979 came to 120 million Syrian pounds, whereas this figure rose in 1980 to 263 million Syrian pounds, in 1981 to 280 million Syrian pounds, and in 1982 to 300 million Syrian pounds. That is, the money spent in 1981 and 1982 was equal to that spent during the entire fourth 5-year plan.

Two thousand, three hundred forty four kilometers of sewage systems were constructed, distributed among the centers of towns, regions, districts and villages. Annual allocations to general construction companies came to 4.35 billion Syrian pounds; these are in charge of all the construction projects in the country and have taken the place of foreign firms in this regard. These companies, in cooperation with the Ministry of Communications, also have followed through with

the construction of international highways, expressways and branch roads and have been in charge of maintaining them. A large number of telephone lines have been installed. In the context of transportation, the rate of construction in the port of Latakia reached 70 percent and the passenger terminal in Damascus International Airport was built and put in operation.

Third: Health

Health policy in the country continues to transcend all the obstacles to the application of the various stages of health insurance and the provision of preventive medical systems. The decisive pharmaceutical policy aimed at striking at the monopoly of the Western pharmaceutical companies, encouraging domestic pharmaceutical production and providing medicines to the people at appropriate prices and in the necessary volumes is continuing.

Fourth: Higher Education, Instruction, Culture and Information

The number of students in the country's universities this academic year totals 120,455, an increase of 3,000 male and female students over the previous year. The increase in the number of secondary level students came to 5,673. In the preparatory level, the number came to 17,053 male and female students, in the primary stage the increase came to 86,867, and in the kindergartens the increase came to 4,092. In 1982, 38 new secondary schools were constructed containing 206 new branches, 75 new preparatory schools with 686 new branches were constructed, 252 new primary schools with 4,155 new branches were created, and 20 new kindergartens with 98 new branches were established. In addition, attention has been devoted to diverse cultural activities and media. Interest in the media is concentrated on increasing media resources so that they may be used as one of the important instruments of education, culture, and political and moral education and may contribute to the success of the development plans. From this point of view, the government gives the media and the people engaged in it attention which arises from its esteem for the efforts and talents that make media activity an effective means for attaining progress and development and confronting media hostile to the Arab nation.

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CSO: 4404/148

BRIEFS

ANTI-CORRUPTION MEASURES--President al-Asad has given the government the go-ahead signal to adopt further deterrent measures and decisions against those proven to have committed any crimes or violations of graft or cheating, be they officials or prominent people dealing with government projects. President al-Asad devoted significant passages of his latest speech to discuss the role of parasitism and parasites in sabotaging the national economy, asserting that parasitism and parasites are a burden to life, a deviation from its natural and ethical laws and a malignant disease that ruins life's and society's cells and that must be dealt without any delay to prevent its continuation and spread. On the other hand, the Syrian Council of Ministers approved last week a new bill stiffening the penalties for those committing gambling crimes "in order to protect society from this serious malady." It is worth noting that the Syrian law contains, to start with, stiff punishment for gamblers and those facilitating gambling. The new law comes to make this punishment stiffer. A few years ago, a permission was given for opening a gambling casino at the Damascus International Airport. The casino operated for 2 years and was then closed finally. The new law wipes out the efforts exerted to open two gambling halls at the Sheraton and Meridan hotels. [Text] [Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic No 301, 27 Nov 82 p 16] 8494

CSO: 4404/120

SETBACKS FOR GOVERNMENT, SOVIETS REPORTED

Mujahedin Burn Schools

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 5 Jan 83 p 3

[Text]

The hired bandits exported from abroad have temporarily infiltrated in every region of Afghanistan. They have resorted to incredibly inhuman deeds. Besides killing innocent people, including children, women and old men, they also destroy and set fire to schools, 'madrasas'. Government institutions and public welfare establishments.

For example, the counter-revolution from 1358 to 1361 HS (1979 to 1982) has destroyed over 1,800 schools, 150 health centres and hospitals, tens of mosques and others, many of which were set on fire with what they contained including religious books and especially holy Koran.

We will note few instances of such destruction and arson:—

Burning of the Shah Hussain Hotaki lycee, Kandahar by the 'Harakat Islami' band, headed by Abdul Jabar in Dalw. 1358 (February 1980).

Burning of the Zarghona Ana Lycee of Kand-

ahar by the 'Harakat Islami' band, headed by Haji Nik Mohammad (the commander-general of the band is Haji Abdul Aziz residing in Pakistan) in Hoot 1358 (March 1980).

Burning and destruction of the schools of Panjab, Yakawlang, secondary schools of Wars and primary schools of the Bamian province by the 'Itifaqi Islami' band, headed Ali Behishti and Abdul Azim, in Aqrab 1358 (November 1979).

Destruction of the Kahmar Lycee in the Bamian province by the Gulbuddin band in Qaus 1358 (December 1979).

Burning of the secondary school of Gulran, Herat province, including the library of the school by the 'Jamiati Islami' band, headed by Haji Rasoul and Haji Bahader in July 1979.

Destruction of the Sang Birait establishment and the oil deposit of the Stagerd of Ghorband district, Parwan province, by Gulbuddin band. under

the command of Saiful Rahman in 1358 (1979). Burning the Orgo school in the Badakhshan province by the Gulbuddin band, under the command of Wakil Mohiddin, in Mizan 1358 (October 1979).

Government Soldiers Mutiny

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 20 Jan 83 p 2

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan, Jan. 19 (UPI) — Several hundred Afghan soldiers mutinied, mowed down their Russian advisers and fled across the border to Pakistan as Soviet gunships followed in angry pursuit, western diplomats said Tuesday.

They said the troops involved in the three-day rebellion between Jan. 10 and Jan. 13 belonged to the 25th division and were attached to the Khost garrison in Paktia province, 18 miles (29 km) west of the border.

Reports on the mutiny surfaced at briefings in both Islamabad and the Indian capital of New Delhi, where a diplomat said that "at least several hundred Afghan troops attacked and killed their Soviet advisers as well as Afghan officers who resisted."

"The mutineers burned tanks, trucks and other vehicles and defected en masse with their weapons," the diplomat in New Delhi said.

Soviet-piloted helicopter gunships were dispatched from the Afghan capital of Kabul to hunt the mutineers, he said.

The exact number of mutineers and the number of casualties were not reported.

In Islamabad, western diplomats said the commander of Afghanistan's 25th division was placed under arrest in Kabul for failing to quell the revolt.

The reported mutiny represented a heartening development for the anti-communist Islamic guerrillas fighting to oust the 105,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan and topple the regime of President Babrak Karmal, installed by Moscow three years ago.

It was the second mutiny in less than a month.

On Dec. 31, rebelling troops killed 30 officials of the country's ruling Communist party, diplomatic sources said, adding that 12 of the mutineers crossed into Pakistan while 100 others sought shelter in eastern Afghanistan.

Defections and casualties appear to have whittled down the Afghan Army significantly.

Maj. Gen. Naik Mohammad Azizi, who was commander of the Afghan military academy but defected to Pakistan recently, said Monday Afghan Army strength had plummeted from 80,000 to 15,000 in the past three years of war.

Russians Killed in Night Attack

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 21 Jan 83 p 3

[Text] ISLAMABAD, Jan. 20 (UPI)--Islamic guerrillas killed 48 Russian servicemen and destroyed 13 helicopters in a fierce nighttime attack on an airport in Afghanistan Saturday, a rebel news agency said Wednesday.

The Pakistan-based Afghan Islamic Press said the guerrillas also destroyed five tanker trucks, a radar, an airplane workshop and a machinegun in their raid on the airport in the eastern city of Jalalabad, 80 miles (130 km) east of the Afghan capital of Kabul.

The report could not be confirmed independently.

CSO: 4600/233

ECONOMY REPORTED THRIVING DESPITE WAR

Bank Issues GNP Figures

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 5 Jan 83 p 1

[Text]

KABUL, January 5 (Bakhtar).— An official of the Afghanistan Bank has refuted the allegations of Western media on the economic progress of the country in an interview to Haqqate Enqlabe Saur.

Presenting a table of information on the economic situation (reproduced), the official said that "the past decadent monarchical regimes left the heritage of an economically and socially backward society to the working people of our country. And the glorious Saur Revolution, at the will of our people, achieved victory on the economic ruins of the past. It takes a long time to overcome and to end this backwardness."

"Despite all this", he added, "during the course of five years after the victory of the Saur Revolution, spectacle transformations have taken place in the socio-economic life of our people. In the absence of the destructive activities of the counter-revolution with the help of international imp-

erialism headed by the US imperialism, more victories would be achieved by our beloved country".

"The valuable assistance of the great Soviet Union has played an outstanding role in the economic growth of the country. With the unprecedented assistance of the country of Soviets, projects have been built in Afghanistan which have had direct effects on the socio-economic life of our people", he pointed out.

Construction of Naghlo power station, the Salang Highway, the Polytechnic Institute, the Jangalak Factories, the Hada and Ghaziabad farms, the 400-bed hospital and others are "the projects which have been built with the assistance of the Soviet Union in the country and which have only been in the interests of our national economy", he noted.

In addition, the Soviet Union has rendered gratis aid in the form of consumer and primary goods to the Afghan people during

Description	1359 (estimated in billion Afghanis)	1360	1361
Domestic gross produce			
Gross produce in industrial and power sectors	135	137	140
National income from production	28	28	30
Investments in social services	92	94	93
Foreign trade circulation	1,570	1,771	3,111
(imports not included)	13	1,336	1,357

1980-81, he added.

These days, the Western media are raising a hue and cry that the economic situation is declining and dependency of Afghan economy on the community of Socialist countries is increasing, that the exchange of local currency is facing serious problems and that the purchase of the currency is being done by other sources in order to improve the present position, the official noted.

Doubtless, due to objective factors, special economic problems exist in the country which arise entirely from the traitorous deeds of the counter-revolutionaries, these traitors of the homeland and the people. But, one can see from the table that economic situation in the country is not tense, but shows comparative growth despite all problems, the official pointed out.

The economic relations of Afghanistan with the Socialist countries headed by the great Soviet Union, are not a new phenomenon, but it has a long tradition, "and these relations, in the course of history, have proved to be in the interests of our country's national eco-

nomy. Therefore, these relations are expanding every year", the official affirmed.

"Since the subject has a connection with the Saur Revolution, especially its new and evolutionary phase, it should be mentioned that it is obvious that the imperialist forces, especially the US imperialism, have not only practised explicit enmity with our people and homeland by equipping and arming the counter-revolution, but have started an economic blockade against us. After the new and evolutionary phase of the revolution, the Western countries and Western international institutions have cut all their assistance and credits unilaterally, contrary to all norms and international agreements towards revolutionary Afghanistan, while the appropriate assistance and credits of the Socialist countries, especially the Soviet Union, as honest friends of Afghan people, have considerably been increased during the same period", he stressed.

"Contrary to the claims of the Western circles, the foreign trade of our country with currency exchange zones in the years of 1359, 1360 and the first half of

the 1361 have amounted to 526, 513 and 426 million dollars respectively", he said.

"Furthermore, it is a phenomenon of economic relations that developing countries, as a result of their economic relations with the capitalist world characterised by exploitation and plunder, have lost their economic independence, with all branches of economy of these countries are being managed and controlled by the capitalist countries—while the economic relations with the Socialist countries do not only not affect the economic independence of the developing countries, but are a full guarantee for the strengthening of their economic and political independence. Therefore, one cannot name the economic relations of free and independent Afghanistan with the brother Socialist countries, based on the equal and mutual interests

as economic dependence he added.

"According to the international agreements, if a country's deposit of exchangeable currency could support imports for three to six months, the currency position of the country is evaluated as positive. We can say with confidence that the official deposit of exchangeable currency of our country can support one-year imports of the country. Therefore, we can say that the false propaganda of the Western media that Afghanistan faces serious problems of exchangeable currency is not true", he stressed.

"The claim that the banking system of the country is making efforts to purchase the local currency from other sources, is also another lie, and no such decision has been taken so far, nor has a need for it been felt yet", he added.

Progress in Various Sectors Described

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 5 Jan 83 pp 2, 3

[Text] The basic task of the party and revolutionary state regarding the economic sector, relying upon the support and participation of the people, which is to struggle against economic backwardness is speeding up, as a result also gearing up the national economic growth, raising the material and cultural level of the life of the people of Afghanistan.

Revolutionary transformations in the economic and social fields is the prime task of our party and revolutionary state towards emerging from backwardness. The state of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, under the leadership of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, continuously strives through the augmentation of the level of production forces and speeding up of the economic growth, to put an end to the long persistent backwardness and underdevelopment in the country.

Our revolutionary state, as a guide and a manager, for the fulfilment of this urgent task, has schemes of scientifically coordinated plans and takes into consideration other practical measures.

In spite of the undeclared and imposed war waged by the imperialism, in the first half of the current year, with the active participation of the toiling masses, the 1361 plan, has been successfully implemented.

Taking into consideration the statistical data available these victories, from one quarter to another and from one year to another year, shows great increase.

In the agriculture sector, in the first half of the year, the cultivation of various crops has been 100 per cent implemented and 0.5 per cent increase has been reported in the area of cultivation, comparing with last year. The area of cereal cultivation comprises 3,370,000 hectares, from which 2,325,000 hectares are allocated for the wheat cultivation. The cultivation of vegetables, melons and watermelons has increased 4.5 per cent and in the meantime, the envisaged plan for fruit production has been implemented 100 per cent.

The production of wheat, vegetables, melons and watermelon, fruits including grapes has shown four, 5.2 and 0.9 per cent increase respectively compared to the last year.

The crop of citrus and olive, compared to 1360 HS, has shown 28.4 and 5.3 per cent increase respectively.

The mechanised agricultural project, with its 115 active tractors and other implement, during the first six months, carried out various agricultural services which is 13 per cent more than the same period last year.

In the meantime, the distribution of various chemical fertilisers has increased five per cent and distribution of plants and animal pesticide has shown 70 per cent increase compared to the same period last year. Veterinary services have expanded in the arena of research, survey and disease cure in the state and private sectors. Thirtysix per cent increase has been recorded compared to the same period last year in this sector.

In the first six months of the current year, in the various laboratories 3.4 million doses of animal vaccines have been produced which is 300,000 more doses than the same period last year.

Great accomplishments regarding the management of water in the provinces have also been achieved. They include cleaning of canals, construction of dams, collecting hydrological data and cooperation with the peasants to set up peasants' committees all over the country.

The production plan of the state and mixed sector for mines and industry and energy includes 43 organisations that show 3.7 per cent increase compared to six months of last year.

The production of 14 main products—identified by the Council of Ministers, indicates 3.6 per cent increase over the same period last year.

The amount of coal produced with the implementation of 103.9 per cent of the envisaged plan, shows an eight per cent increase over last year. Seven per cent of this increase has

been recorded in the second quarter of this year.

During the first six months of the current year, deep drilling work has increased to 124 per cent, detection and prospecting to 113 per cent, extraction to 157 per cent according to plan. In the Seismological work with the OKT method, six per cent increase has been recorded.

The total production of cement in the Ghori and Jabel Saraj cement factories reached to 565,000 tons, which is 17,500 tons more than the first six months of the last year.

Production of the chemical fertiliser shows 105.3 per cent increase in the envisaged plan of the first half of the current year.

Production of reinforced concrete is same as in the last year.

As a result of better and more transportational facilities and means, the envisaged plan of production was implemented 125.5 per cent.

COTTON

Ginned cotton production has been implemented 5 per cent more than the envisaged plan in the first six months of the current year.

In the first six months of the current year, 18.56 million metres of cotton cloth and 86,000 metres of woollen cloth has been produced which shows a 28 per cent increase compared to the same period last year.

The production of wheat flour in the same period shows 5.1 per cent increase in the anticipated plan when compared with the same period last year. The envisaged plan of meat produc-

tion in the slaughter house has been implemented 117.5 per cent when compared to the same period last year, which shows a 14.7 per cent increase. Import of chicken meat, along with the mentioned increase has contributed to the stability of meat prices in the Kabul city.

The production of electricity in the first six months of the current year, compared to the same period last year has increased 9.2 per cent. In the near future, a transformer of 25 megawatt will be installed in the Khaikhana Mina area and will be put into operation.

For the purpose of growth and expansion of the state industrial sector, and for the encouragement, support and sound development of the private sector of the national economy, 35 small and intermediate industrial projects in the field of consumer goods and food stuff have been approved involving a total capital of Afs 498 millions which shows a three-fold increase to the envisaged sum. These projects are under construction.

Along with the completion and activation of these projects, 2,119 workers will find work opportunity. Nineteen other projects, with the initial capital of Afs 82 millions have recently begun operations and the Rahmani textile mill has also been reactivated.

In the transport and communications sector, 73 per cent increase has occurred in the first half of last year.

Hundred and eight per cent and 104 per cent increase

have been registered in the travel and commodity transport respectively.

In the volume of communications, considering the prices of the year 1357, and comparing the services of the first half of last year, an eight per cent increase has been recorded. The income from international communication has reached the level of 1357 and 12 per cent increase was seen in the growth of telegraph services. This was due to the assistance and cooperation of the fraternal Soviet Union in the development of international telephone and telegraph communications with the Communication Ministry.

In the sector of social services, during the first six months, the average radio and television programme plan was implemented 94.5 and 100 per cent respectively. The plan regarding the artistic documentary, and news films is evaluated as 146.2 per cent. The data reveals that 7.2 per cent more production has taken place than the envisaged plan in these areas.

The number of the students attracted to the institutions of the higher and vocational education Ministry shows five per cent increase in the first six months of this year, when compared to the same period last year.

The assessment of the data for the first half year of 1361 in the three institutes (the Kabul and Nangarhar universities and the Polytechnic) reveals that the number of students enrolled in them is 22.5 per cent more than last year.

In the main constructional

sector, in the first half year, the construction of the bridge over the Amu River (the Friendship Bridge) has been completed. Two hundred residential apartments have been built in this period in Kabul city. The preliminary survey work of the first phase of the 220 kilo volt electric line from the Soviet frontier to Khulm, Pulekhumri and Kabul was also completed and the work on the third electrical network for Kabul has progressed 94 per cent. The 16 metre gallery of the Salang Highway was also completed. The plans of the transportation institutes of the Kamaz vehicles in the Kabul city, the technical services station in Hairatan and Pule Khumri and the institute for tanker repair in the Kabul city are ready to be implemented.

HOUSING

The work on the construction of the mill, the silo and the bakery in the cities of Mazare Sharif and Pulekhumri, has considerably progressed.

In the mean time the construction work of 160 apartments of Ghani Khil and Khaiber has been completed and is ready for utilization. Likewise, 12.3 kms of city streets have been asphalted under the developmental plan of the Kabul municipality. The constructional work of the Hairatan port's establishments complex with a capacity of 850,000 tons is also completed with the economic and technical cooperation of the Soviet Union. Also the construction work of a bridge on the Safid river is complete and is ready to be opened to traffic.

In the first six months of the current year, the income from local sources shows 3.5 per cent increase when compared to the same period last year. The total state income including the produce from the sale of consumer goods is over Afs 15.8 billion which shows Afs 1.1 billion increase compared to the same period last year.

Trade in the first six months of the current year has increased to \$1.7 million, when compared to the same period last year.

The foreign trade data shows that there are \$61.7 million surplus for the country. In the barter trade sector there is a surplus of \$85.5 million while in the non-barter sector there is a deficit of 23.8 million dollars.

The total trade circulation of the state sector during the first half of the current year shows a 28.5 per

cent increase than the same period last year.

Due to the subsidy from the state budget, the price of primary goods and other necessities like petroleum, diesel, kerosene, sugar and electricity has remained unchanged and supply of firewood and wheat flour is being done at a fixed price, playing a significant role in stabilising prices.

Statistical data presented here shows that, as a result of the patriotic work and struggle, the toiling of the state employees and the Government and due to the cooperation of the toiling masses, regardless of a series of shortcomings, the goals of the state development plan have been successfully implemented which is an evidence of the relatively favourable economic growth regarding the present situation.

(—Translated from Haqiqat-e-Enqlabe Saur).

Transportation Improving

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 11 Jan 83 p 3

[Text]

Although I have been attacked several times by the counter-revolutionaries, I have so far been able to protect my vehicle and the goods it carried with. A strong will", Mohammad Hashim, a driver of the AF-SOTR transport company told the Kabul New Times reporter recently. He said: "For two years now I have been working in the AF-SOTR company without causing any delay in the transport of goods. Prior to the victory of the Saur Revolution, employment of staff in most institutions was not easy and was generally accom-

panied by bribery. But after the revolution, especially its new phase, beside other basic transformations in the life of our people, great changes also took place in the transportation sector. Skillful and patriotic drivers, without any obstacle can be employed and take part in transporting commodities as a toiling patriot."

"The victory of the Saur Revolution has evoked the wrath of imperialism, Chinese hegemonism and regional reaction and they are struggling for creating obstacles in the way of the re-

volutionary transformations in our country. The counter-revolution hinder traffic on the highways and bridges. While transporting goods from the ports of the country, I have encountered several times the counter-revolutionaries, but with persistent struggle and resistance, I did not allow them to damage my vehicle or

the commodities. After every safe trip, I have been encouraged by the transportation authorities", he noted.

The reason for my safety is my relying upon the Saur Revolution and the militant PDPA. In fact, the sacred duty of all drivers and staff in the transportation sector is to perceive this critical

moment in time and try not to be hindered in work. They should perform their responsibilities with allegiance to the party and revolution. My message to all the patriotic and heroic drivers of the country is to struggle with all difficulties and let not the counter-revolution hinder the transport of goods in the country", he added.

Japanese Reports Build-up in Kabul

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 11 Jan 83 pp 2-3

[Text]

Satoshi Takayama, correspondent of Japanese newspaper Asahi, visited Afghanistan recently with a group of journalists and shared impressions of this trip with the readers of the paper.

Below are excerpts from his articles.

Despite difficulties, the Karmal Government is trying with inspiration to transform that backward country, using as a lever the extensive Soviet military and economic aid.

At the Agriculture Ministry, I met Lakanwal, who had just been appointed to that post. Lakanwal said with enthusiasm: "The Government has to correct the criminal mistakes of Amin and win the trust of the clergy and peasants, i.e. create a social basis for the eradication of counter-revolution."

The Karmal Government is making attempts to improve the situation in agriculture. The law of the Amin period, banning

ownership of more than six hectares of land per peasant's family, was abolished, and an understanding has been reached not to confiscate the land belonging to the clergy. And, to confirm this, a certificate for the right of land-ownership is being issued.

This is being done to disprove propaganda statements of anti-Government groupings about a likely repeated expropriation of the land.

The purchase prices of farm products were raised and the prices of fertilizers and other goods delivered to farmers were reduced. Fertilisers and seed reserves are being distributed among agricultural cooperatives and low interest rates on credits have been fixed.

FACILITIES

Setting up agricultural aid centres throughout the country, the Government is building irrigation facilities and roads.

I visited Afghanistan for the first time in January 1980 after the Soviet tro-

ops were brought into the country. During my second visit to Kabul, the first thing that struck me was the steadily increasing number of people and multicolour cars, including Japanese models. In the streets there were also buses and trucks. Since bicycles, carts, wheelbarrows and, sometimes, flocks of sheep join this stream traffic jams occur at rush-hours.

The officials of the Kabul regime stress: "The military situation is quickly improving throughout the country and there are more cases of rebels laying down their arms."

Though the rebels are capable of conducting individual terrorist acts they can no longer launch operations exerting decisive influence on the military situation. It looks as if the facts are being confirmed that the rebels were dealt a rather heavy blow in four points: Panjsher, Kandahar, Herat and Paghman.

Our group was present at a Press conference at which six captive rebels were interrogated. To the question who trained them, one of the prisoners answered: "We were trained by Americans, British and Egyptians at the camp near Peshawar (Pakistan) for three months. We were taught everything from handling weap-

ons to methods of guerilla warfare. The arms we were supplied included hand-grenades, mines, automatic rifles and so on."

"What was your task?"

"To destroy bridges, burn schools and hospitals. At night we had to raid dwellings, kidnap and kill the employees of Government troops and activists."

To the question whether all this was in keeping with the laws of Islam, he replied: "Now I repent my misdeeds..."

In southern Kabul, not far from the Soviet embassy, there is a big building surrounded with a stone wall. This is the Watan orphanage where 450 children who lost their parents live. And again the Soviet Union comes to aid by sending them clothing, butter, cheese and meat.

Mrs Bakhar, a 28-year old educator, lost her husband—a soldier of Government troops—18 months ago. He served in the northern province of Kunduz. The bandits kidnapped him and tortured by cutting his body with knives. His family was punished too.

She was separated from her three children, beaten up with clubs and butts. But the government troops helped her out of this trouble and after six days she met her children at last...

Plenty of Food in Mazar-e Sharif

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 10 Jan 83 p 1

[Text]

KABUL, January 10 (Bakhtar).— The plots and conspiracies of the enemies of the Saur revolution and creation of obstacles by the mercenaries and exported elements from abroad have failed to affect the food and prices situation.

A BIA survey in Mazare Sharif reveals abundant availability of foodstuffs at cheap prices.

Some of the representatives of the different classes and sellers of foodstuffs of the Mazar city, condemning the treacherous actions of the reaction and imperialism, say that for the obstacles created by the counter-revolution in transferring the foodstuffs from the distant localities to the main markets, there would have been no shortage caused by this factor and the prices would have been lower than in the past.

This was stated by Nek Mohammad, rice seller, Nurraddin, peddler, Ewaz, a grocer, Joma, a butcher, Ali Dad, a fruit-seller, and Raza, fodder-seller, in interviews to the BIA.

They added that, despite these obstacles and difficul-

ties, the available goods were being sold according to the municipal regulations.

They appreciated the Government's attention to facilities for foodstuff transport from the villages, towns and distant localities.

They also condemned those who disrupt peace and destabilise the life of the people.

The trade unions of the Balkh province have an active and positive role in stabilising prices. With the cooperation of the unions, it has been decided to open consumer goods stores for providing more facilities to the city and suburbs of Mazare Sharif.

The unions have also decided to open shops for selling primary goods for stabilising prices in the city.

A local restaurant and a retail shop have been opened recently, which offer goods at prices 2 per cent lower than the municipality-fixed prices.

This step has been taken by the provincial council of trade unions.

It is planned to sell different goods through such shops at low prices to the people.

CSO: 4600/232

REVOLUTION ADVANCES ROLE OF WOMEN

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 10 Jan 83 p 2

[Editorial: Role for Women in Revolution "]

[Text]

Ensuring of active participation and equal opportunities for women in social affairs is another achievement of the revolution, particularly its new-phase. Concern for the lot of women and elimination of the historical causes of their underdevelopment, illiteracy and social inactivity is, in fact, concern for the solution of the long-neglected problems of one half of the population.

The achievements of the Women's Democratic Organisation of Afghanistan in drawing women into the social, economic and cultural life have considerably expanded the social basis of the revolution and accelerated the process of social development in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Since the very beginning, the Women's Democratic Organisation of Afghanistan, despite numerous obstacles posed by the legacy of the decrepit feudal orders, has not only

seriously defended the rights and privileges of Afghan women. But, it has also, along with the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, valourously stood as a bulwark of peace, freedom, national independence and socio-economic progress as part of the revolutionary movement in the country.

The Women's Democratic Organisation of Afghanistan, staunch supporter of the rights and privileges of Afghan women in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, strives for effective participation of the women in the revolutionary process.

To fulfil its historical mission on behalf of the long-suffering women of Afghanistan, the Women's Democratic Organisation of Afghanistan, under the leadership of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, pays ample attention to enlightening women.

Realising the sad significance of the fact that the

majority of the women in the country are nonliterate due to the anti-people and anti-progress policies of the past decrepit orders, the Women's Democratic Organisation of Afghanistan strenuously strives to encourage and guide the women in the literacy courses, adult school and other useful activities.

As an important means of attracting women into productive social, economic and political activities, the Women's Democratic Organisation of Afghanistan serves to safeguard and realise the rights and privileges of the Afghan women as guaranteed by revolutionary legislation. It provides opportunities for promotion of their talents and utilisation of their creative

force in laying foundations for a new, progressive Afghan society.

The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan provides favourable conditions for equal participation of men and women in the social affairs in building a new, flourishing Afghan society.

Under the guidance of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, vanguard of the working class and the entire toiling masses of the country, the Women's Democratic Organisation of Afghanistan has achieved numerous victories in mobilisation of the Afghan women as a dynamic social force in Afghanistan during the new and evolutionary phase of the revolution.

Victory is with the working women of Afghanistan.

CSO: 4600/237

TRIBAL CHIEFS SUPPORT REVOLUTION

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 5 Jan 83 p 1

[Text] JALALABAD, January 5 (Bakhar)--The chiefs and elders of the tribes of Behsood, Nangarhar province have, in a gathering, called for "a decisive and untiring struggle against the counter-revolution" and renewed their pledge for "implementation of the progressive programmes of our revolutionary state".

The Deputy Nationalities and Tribal Affairs Minister spoke at the gathering on the revolutionary aspirations of the party and the state.

Chulam Nabi, on behalf of others, condemned the "shameful and treacherous actions of the counter-revolutionaries, these servants of reaction and imperialism."

They pledged their "full readiness to defend the gains of the Saur Revolution and its new phase and ensuring security in the region."

A report from Farah adds: Elders, chiefs and a large number of the Noorzai people of the Farahrode district have condemned the "anti-human acts of the counter-revolutionary elements" in a tribal "jirgah" (assembly) in the nationalities and tribal affairs directorate of the province recently.

They expressed "all-sided readiness to eradicate these criminals".

Haji Abdul Latif, Haji Abdul Hamid and Abdul Raoof, on behalf of others, appreciated "the state plans for the benefit of the toiling people of the country."

They pledged to defend the public utility installations and institutions and not to let the enemies of the country and revolution to disturb the people.

CSO: 4600/237

GREAT POTENTIAL OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRY, ITS PROBLEMS DISCUSSED

Dhaka SANGBAD in Bengali 18 Nov 82 p 4

[Editorial: "Industrial Potential and Real Problems"]

[Text] We send our handicrafts to the tradefairs in foreign countries with pride and we feel very happy when foreigners praise them highly. By selling those items foreign exchange of 30 crores three hundred million rupees has been earned. There is potential of far greater earnings from this, but how much efforts have we mounted to realize that potential? The other day, in a report published in another newspaper it was stated that there has not been any survey of our cottage industry since independence. The survey that determined the number of our cottage industries was conducted twenty years ago. Consequently, the big question is at what rate development activities have been going on in this area. In the 1962 survey conducted by IPSIC [? Pakistan Small Industries Corporation?] the number of cottage industries was given as 3 lakhs 55 thousand (three hundred and fifty five thousand), and the number of people associated with that industry as 11 lakh 70 thousand (one million one hundred seventy thousand). Since then twenty long years have gone by. Definitely the industry is still not at the same level. But all government accounting is based on that twenty year old statistics.

From this fact alone the rate at which the development activities have been going on can somewhat be guessed. The seriousness with which this matter is being treated by the involved officials need to be pondered. There has been much discussion concerning the development of small and cottage industry but up till now there is no existence of any national policy in this matter. In the second five year plan, the amount of money allocated for the small and cottage industries is only 1.12 percent of the total budget. Out of the total budget of 25,595 crores (255,950,000,000) of takas, only 225 crores (2,250,000,000) takas have been allotted for this purpose. On the other hand, the amount of money allocated for the medium and heavy industries has been 3,050 crores (30,500,000,000) of takas. However, if adequate capital and proper patronage could be provided, the potential for the development of the small and cottage industries is tremendous. In the 27 thousand units of small scale industry in the nation, a total of 2 lakh 70 thousand (270,000,000) people are employed. The total amount of investment in this area is 202 crores and 22 lakhs (2,022,200,000) of takas. Annual production is of 596 crores (5,960,000,000) of takas. According to the IPSIC survey there were 3 lakhs 55 thousand (350,000) units of cottage industry and 11 lakhs 70 thousand (1,170,000) of persons were employed. BISIC [?Bangladesh Small Industries Corporation] has

supposed to have conducted another survey, but since it has not yet been finalized, it could not be published. Anyway, the need for accurate statistics in the area of cottage industry still remain.

The problem concerning the development in the area of small and cottage industry remains embedded in the above-stated facts. No one can expect that any industry can develop in national stature without the existence of any national policy. Within the framework of national economical policy, the extent of its importance and its role need to be clearly defined.

From economic standpoint, the role and course of action for highly developed modern industry and cottage industry with traditional skills can not be the same.. Even in the areas of production and employment, their importance is not the same. In both the cases there is need for clear-cut planning. And the objective of both of them must be the economic well being of common people. There is definite need for modern industry, but that does not mean that the traditional cottage industry, which has made great contribution to the village economy, should be neglected and pushed toward total destruction. The cottage industries, which embody national tradition, have tremendous potential. These small and cottage industries can make great contribution to our national economy. For this purpose proper planning is needed and also there is need for effort and enterprise. But where is that planning and endeavour? How can there be proper planning when there is not existence of adequate facts and data? All developmental activities are totally dependant upon dependable data on related matters. For this purpose necessary survey and research are needed. The requirements for development programs must be ascertained. In this respect the granting of loan assistance for the purpose of creation of capital must come ahead of everything else. It is needless to say that the allotment for this purpose must be significantly increased. Even then, only increasing the allotment for loan assistance would not be enough; there is the need for simplifying the method for granting loans.

In the past it has been found that because of the tyranny of influential circles loans granted by BISIC for small and cottage industries failed to reach the actual entrepreneurs. The loan money was not used for establishing cottage industries, but used for some other purpose. For that very reason repayment of loan money was not properly made. Furthermore there are so many complexities in the process of receiving loans that it becomes virtually impossible for an enterprising entrepreneur to get loan.

There should be some method by which a really enterprising person can get loan against low collateral. In the case of small industry it has been found that city or industrial area based individuals greatly benefit from these loans. Rural entrepreneurs do not benefit adequately from these loan programs, partly due to policy and partly due to procedural reasons. The interest of development must be paramount in the formation of any loan grant program. There is definite need for proper arrangement for granting loan and also its repayment with interest, but in this case that should not be considered to be the main objective. The matter concerning collateral should be considered from the point of view of development.

Then comes the matter of marketing of the produced merchandise. If adequate market cannot be found for the products, how can an industry survive? But has there been any properly planned effort to create an adequate market for the products? There is demand for our handicrafts overseas. But how much planned effort has been made to meet those demands or to find these markets? Exhibiting only a few items in the stalls of trade fairs held overseas and receiving some orders on that basis cannot be stated as creating markets.

It is true our cottage industry has great tradition. But if no effort is made to improve its qualities, today's demands cannot be met by our ancient tradition alone. There is need to improve their qualities through research, and also there is need to improve the skills of the craftsmen. For this purpose there is need for arrangement of proper training.

Small and cottage industries play important roles in the economies of many developed countries of the world. It has become possible only due to the development of the industry and improvement in the quality of the products. This requires well formulated planning. In an agricultural economy like ours, development of small and cottage industries is extremely important. But, just as it needs capital, it also needs hard work. If there is proper planning, hard work and spending of money will become justified.

12195

CSO: 4607/1

REPORTAGE OF TURKISH PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO DHAKA

Report on 23 Dec Banquet

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 24 Dec 82 pp 1, 12

[Text] The President, Mr Justice A.F.M. Ahsanuddin Chowdhury on Thursday night called for "complete, immediate and unconditional" withdrawal of Israel from "all illegally occupied" Arab territory and demanded restoration of the rights of the Palestinians in Jerusalem under the PLO's leadership, reports BSS.

He was proposing a toast at the banquet hosted by him in honour of the visiting Turkish President Kenan Evren at the Bangabhaban in Dhaka.

The Chief Martial Law Administrator, Lt General H.M. Ershad also attended the banquet.

Besides the DCMLAs, Rear Admiral M.A. Khan and Air Vice-Marshal Sultan Mahmud, former Presidents Justice Abu Sayeed Chowdhury, Mr Mohammadullah and Justice A.S.M. Sayem and Ministers were present.

President Ahsanuddin, in his speech, expressed great concern at the situation in the West Asian region, stressed the need for unity of the Islamic nations and laid emphasis on the widening of friendship and bilateral relations between Bangladesh and Turkey for continued progress and prosperity of the two brotherly peoples.

Expressing his great agony and concern at the continued crisis in the West Asian region President Ahsanuddin said the Muslim world was passing through a critical juncture in the history of Islam. He said "we are shocked and distressed" at the unprovoked aggression of Israel, time and again, against our Palestinian and Arab brethren.

He said Israel's illegal annexation of the city of Jerusalem as their "eternal" and undivided capital was an affront to the sentiments of all Muslims and Christians and a flagrant violation of international law and practice. He said Israel's unprovoked and ruthless massacre of the unarmed old men, women and children in Beirut camps, in the wake of an unprovoked invasion of Lebanon, deserved the unequivocal and unanimous condemnation that it had received.

The President said Bangladesh firmly believed that there could be "No just and lasting peace in West Asia without the complete, immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from all illegally occupied Arab lands, the restoration of Arab and Islamic sovereignty over the holy city of Jerusalem and the full realisation of the inalienable rights of the Palestinians to establish an independent state in their own homeland under the leadership of PLO, their sole and legitimate representative. In this connection, he said Bangladesh welcomed the Arab peace plan which could serve as the basis for a fair and lasting solution of the Palestinian problem that represents the core of the West Asian crisis."

Expressing his grave concern at the continued war between two brother Muslim countries, Iraq and Iran, President Ahsanuddin said Bangladesh hoped that efforts for ending this fratricidal war, that had been causing incalculable harm not only to these two countries, but also to the entire Islamic Ummah and posed a threat to peace and security in the region would soon be successful.

He expressed his great satisfaction that Bangladesh and Turkey, the two brotherly countries shared a similarity of views on many of the international issues. He said both these two countries as fellow members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference were pledged to upholding the objectives and principles of the conference, "Let us today reaffirm our determination to work unitedly for the solidarity and closer cooperation of the Islamic nations in all walks of life," he said.

President Ahsanuddin said Bangladesh, as she was opposed to imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and hegemonism in all forms and manifestations strongly condemned the apartheid policy of South Africa and reaffirmed its total support for the heroic people of Namibia and South Africa in their struggle for freedom and justice against the illegal and racist minority regime.

Speaking about the bilateral relations he expressed the confidence that the friendship and the spirit of fraternal cooperation existing between Bangladesh and Turkey would continue to "widen and deepen to the mutual benefit of the two countries. He emphasized that Bangladesh "deeply values her friendship with Turkey."

He said the two countries shared with other peace loving nations the aims and objectives of the United Nations in safeguarding and promoting political and economic security which could hardly be overlooked. "We therefore greatly value international cooperation in all fields for peace, stability and progress," he added.

Text of Speech

Following is the full text of speech of the President, Ahsanuddin Chowdhury at the banquet hosted by him in honour of President Kenan Evren.

Your Excellency President Kenan Evren,
Madam Senay Gurvit,
Distinguished Members of the Turkish Delegation,
Excellencies and Distinguished Guests,

We deem it a great honour to have you amongst us this evening. I have immense pleasure in extending to Your Excellency, Madam Gurvit and the members of your delegation a very warm and cordial welcome. We hope that your visit to Bangladesh, though very brief, will be pleasant and will further strengthen our relations rooted deep as they are in the history, religion, culture and values that we share.

It gives us great satisfaction to note that our two brotherly countries share a similarity of views on many of the international issues. As fellow members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference we are pledged to upholding the objectives and the principles of the Conference. Let us today reaffirm our determination to work unitedly for the solidarity and closer cooperation of the Islamic nations in all walks of life.

Our two countries also share with other peace loving nations the aims and objectives of the United Nations Charter. The essential nature of interdependence of nations in safeguarding and promoting political and economic security can hardly be overlooked. We therefore greatly value international cooperation in all fields for peace, stability and progress.

Today we are passing through a critical juncture in the history of Islam. The continuing crisis in the West Asian region causes us great anguish and concern. We are shocked and distressed at the unprovoked aggression of Israel time and again against our Palestinian and Arab brethren. The illegal annexation of the Holy City of Jerusalem as their "eternal and undivided Capital" is an affront to the sentiments of all Muslims and Christians and a flagrant violation of international law and practice. Israel's unprovoked and ruthless massacre of the unarmed old men, women and children in Beirut camps in the wake of an unprovoked invasion of Lebanon deserves the unequivocal and unanimous condemnation that it has received. We firmly believe that there can be no just and lasting peace in West Asia without the complete, immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from all illegally occupied Arab lands, the restoration of Arab and Islamic sovereignty over the Holy City of Jerusalem and the full realisation of the inalienable rights of the Palestinians to establish an independent state in their own homeland under the leadership of PLO, their sole and legitimate representative. In this connection, we welcome the Arab Peace Plan which can serve as the basis for a fair and lasting solution of the Palestinian problem that represents the core of the West Asian crisis.

We view with grave concern the continuing war between Iraq and Iran, two brotherly Muslim countries. We hope that efforts for ending this fratricidal war that has been causing incalculable harm not only to Iraq and Iran but also to the entire Islamic Ummah and poses a threat to peace and security in the region, will soon be successful.

Bangladesh, opposed as she is to imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism and hegemonism in all forms and manifestations, strongly condemns the apartheid policy of South Africa and reaffirms her total support for the heroic people of Namibia and South Africa in their struggle for freedom and justice against the illegal and racist minority regime.

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize that Bangladesh deeply values her friendship with Turkey. We are confident that this friendship and the spirit of fraternal cooperation existing between our two peoples will continue to widen and deepen to our mutual benefit. I thank Your Excellency once again for visiting Bangladesh, although for a very short period. We shall be looking forward to the pleasure of receiving Your Excellency once again in Bangladesh for a longer period in the near future.

May I now request Your Excellencies and the Distinguished Guests to join me in a toast:

--to the good health, happiness and long life of His Excellency President Kenan Evren and Madam Senay Gurvit,

--to the continued progress and prosperity of the brotherly people of the Republic of Turkey, and

--to the ever growing friendship and enduring cooperation between the Republic of Turkey and the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Evren's 23 Dec Banquet Speech

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 24 Dec 82 pp 1, 12

[Text] President Kenan Evren of Turkey on Thursday night expressed his happiness that an atmosphere of stability and peace had been established in brotherly Bangladesh, reports BSS.

"It is in the interest of other countries in the region that a country attains stability and welfare establishes peace and order within its borders and becomes sufficiently strong to prevent foreign aggression," President Evren said at the banquet given in his honour by President Ahsanuddin Chowdhury at Bangabhaban.

President Evren who arrived here earlier in the day on a three-day state visit said that the formal talks scheduled today (Friday) would provide them an opportunity to study the fields of potential cooperation between Bangladesh and Turkey.

This will also enable them to review the means and ways for exploiting such fields of cooperation to the mutual benefit of both the peoples, he said, adding there are many fields in which Turkey at her given level of development can cooperate with Bangladesh.

President Evren said that the brotherly ties between Turkey and Bangladesh were rooted through history. He said, "Has not the friendship between Sultan Tibu and Turkish monarchs been a subject for history books? Can one forget the material and moral support which our brothers in the then East Bengal generously extended to us during our war of liberation?"

He said the people of East Bengal together with the then Muslim brothers in the Indian peninsula had considered this war as part of their own struggle against colonialism. They had seen in Mustafa Kamal Ataturk a great leader inspiring them and had sincerely celebrated his victories thousands of kilometers away.

Prayers were offered in more than 300 mosques of the then East Bengal after the death of Kamal Ataturk, he said, adding all these constituted the strong foundations of the bonds which tie the Turkish nation to the people of Bangladesh.

President Evren said that Turkey was foremost among the countries which rejoice at seeing the success Bangladesh had achieved to secure peace and stability. We have followed with keen interest the developments marked in the political, economic and cultural fields by Bangladesh since its inception, he said.

Referring to the establishment of a stable atmosphere of peace and security in Turkey, President Evren said that his country was looking forward with hope and confidence after having adopted its new constitution with an overwhelming majority. This will enable Turkey to make the necessary leap to forward in the economic and social fields, he added.

The Turkish leader said that this country followed closely and with appreciation the active role Bangladesh had played in its region in the Non-aligned Movement in the organisation of Islamic Conference and at the United Nations. The exemplary cooperation of our countries in the organisations we belong to is another factor which bring our nations closer, he added.

President Evren condemned the fait-accompli of Israel in the Middle East. The occupation of Lebanon and the massacre of Muslim population had created deep wounds in our hearts, he said, and hoped that the Palestinian brothers would recover their homeland and live there in peace.

Referring to Iran-Iraq war, President Evren regretted the lack of success of the joint efforts of Bangladesh and Turkey in the Islamic peace committee to end the war, but if opportunity arises he said we are determined to pursue our efforts both within the peace committee and through bilateral contacts.

Full Text

Following is the text of speech of President Kenan Evren.

Mr President,
Begum Chowdhury,

At the outset, I wish to thank you most sincerely for Your Excellency's kind words and gracious feelings about the Turkish nation and myself.

I wanted very much to visit your beautiful country last year. Unfortunately reasons beyond my control prevented me from fulfilling this wish. I am therefore very happy to have found this opportunity now. Ever since our arrival in brotherly Bangladesh, we have witnessed a great display of warmth and hospitality. I wish to thank you and through you the people of Bangladesh in my own name and in the name of my delegation for the hospitality which has been extended to us.

As Your Excellency knows very well, the brotherly ties which link our two countries are rooted in history. Hasn't the friendship between Sultan Tipu and Turkish monarchs been a subject for history books? Can one forget the material and moral support which our brothers in East Bengal generously extended to us during our War of Liberation? The people of East Bengal, together with their Moslem brethren in the Indian peninsula have considered this war as part of their own struggle against colonialism; they have seen in Mustafa Kemal Ataturk a great leader inspiring them, and have sincerely celebrated his victories thousands of kilometers away. At Ataturk's Kemal Day was proclaimed and prayers offered for him in more than 300 East Bengali mosques. All these constitute the strong foundations of the bonds which tie the Turkish nation to the people of Bangladesh.

We have followed with keen interest the developments marked in the political, economic and cultural fields by the People's Republic of Bangladesh since its establishment. We are very pleased to see that an atmosphere of stability and peace has been established in brotherly Bangladesh. It is in the interest of other countries in the region that a country attains stability and welfare, establishes peace and order within its borders and becomes sufficiently strong to prevent foreign aggression. I wish to point out that Turkey is foremost among the countries which rejoice at seeing the success Bangladesh has achieved in this regard.

We also know that the developments in Turkey are being closely followed by the people of Bangladesh and their leaders. I want to state with satisfaction that a stable atmosphere of peace and security has been established in my country. The Turkish nation is looking forward with hope and confidence after having adopted its new constitution, with an overwhelming majority. This will enable Turkey to make the necessary leap forward in the economic and social fields.

Mr President,

We are living at a time when regional and international problems are gradually acquiring more complex and dangerous dimensions. The atmosphere of mistrust prevailing in East-West relations, the arms race, the Middle East crisis, the Iran-Iraq war, the occupation of Afghanistan by foreign troops and other problems of the same nature are disputes which overflow their own limits and threaten world peace and security. Moreover, we must not forget that the negative developments in the world economy are at least as important as the political problems. It is a fact that the industrialized countries are also affected by these unfavourable developments. However, it is developing countries like ours which suffer most from the distorted order of the world economy. While difficult, this problem is not altogether insolvable.

All countries must devote their sincere attention to it and spare no sacrifice when necessary.

Mr President.

Turkey follows closely and with appreciation the active role which Bangladesh plays in its region, in the Non-Aligned Movement in the Organization of the Islamic Conference and at the United Nations.

The exemplary cooperation of our countries in the organizations we belong to is another factor which brings our nations closer.

I now wish to mention two problems which preoccupy and worry us deeply.

We condemn the fait-accomplis of Israel in the Middle East. The occupation of Lebanon and the massacres of the Moslem population have opened deep wounds in our hearts. We most sincerely wish our Palestinian brothers to recover their homeland where they will live in peace.

It is very sad to see the lack of success of the joint efforts we have deployed within the Peace Committee set up by the Islamic Conference to stop the meaningless war between Iran and Iraq, both Muslim neighbouring countries and to pave the way for a lasting peace in the region. However, if the opportunity arises we are determined to pursue our efforts both within the Peace Committee and through bilateral contacts.

In addition to the active contribution which Turkey brings to the efforts for the establishment of peace and security in the Middle East and the Islamic world, she steadily increases her efforts aimed at expanding cooperation and strengthening bilateral relations with Islamic countries on the firm basis created by her historical, spiritual and cultural ties with them. There is no need to underline the special place which Bangladesh occupies in this policy of Turkey.

Mr President,

Our talks tomorrow will provide us with an opportunity to study the fields of potential cooperation between our countries as well as to review the means and ways for exploiting them to our mutual benefit. I believe that there are many fields in which Turkey, at her given level of development, can cooperate with Bangladesh.

Expressing that I shall be very honoured to welcome Your Excellencies in Turkey, I raise my glass to the health of Your Excellency and of Begum Chowdhury and to the prosperity and well-being of the brotherly people of Bangladesh.

Ershad's 24 Dec Luncheon Speech

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 25, 26 Dec 82

[25 Dec 82 pp 1, 12]

[Text] The Chief Martial Law Administrator, Lt Gen H.M. Ershad said in Dhaka on Friday that Bangladesh and Turkey bounded by abiding ties stretching over centuries would share their experiences for shaping a better future for the two peoples, reports BSS.

He said, "I am confident that the friendship and fraternal affinity will progress from strength to strength not only because of numerous ties of abiding nature, but also the cause we share, cherish and strive for achieving common ideals."

Gen Ershad was speaking at a luncheon he hosted in honour of the visiting Turkish President Kehan Evren at the Army Officers Mess.

The luncheon was attended, among others, by DCMLA's Rear Admiral M.A. Khan and Air Vice-Marshal Sultan Mahmud, members of the Council of Ministers, the Turkish Foreign Minister Ilter Turkmen and the Turkish Minister of State Mr Sermet Refik Pasin.

Gen Ershad said that every nation had a recognised right to decide upon its own system, strategy and priorities to translate the popular aspirations for bringing about a qualitative improvement in the lives of "our peoples" so that they might live in dignity free from fear and want. In the quest of shaping a better future for our nations it will be natural that we look forward to further sharing our experiences, he added.

In this context the CMLA referred to the recent referendum on constitution in Turkey which received overwhelming approval ensuring absolute respect for rights and liberties of the people to live an honourable life within an atmosphere of national culture, principle of peace at home and peace in the world promotion of national unity, integrity and solidarity. He hoped that Turkey would achieve still greater success and glory in all fields under President Evren's dedicated and inspiring leadership.

Turning to home front, Gen Ershad said that seasoned by struggle and sacrifice to win the freedom, the people of Bangladesh were committed with courage and determination to build a prosperous and happier future. In the nine months since the Government assumed office, fullest attention and entire energy had been devoted to the task of nation building with the fundamental objective of generation of strength and stability through self reliant efforts of the people in all spheres of life, he said.

With the basic idea of having a government near the people we are pursuing a policy to take the administration to the people for having their meaningful and direct participation for quick and effective decision making geared to the needs of rural Bangladesh General Ershad said.

In this respect, the CMLA spoke of upgradation of 100 thanas making each of them as basic unit of field administration which have received overwhelming response of the people. We have decided to quicken the process on upgradation of 450 thanas which will be real centres fully manned, financed and equipped to support and guide the nation building development activities in the villages--the abode of 90 percent population.

The CMLA said like taking administration near the people the High Court of judicature had been decentralised to allow people to have recourse to justice nearer at hand.

In the economic sphere, the government had given priority to key areas like agriculture, population planning, energy and primary and technical education though the country suffered seriously from adverse factors arising out of unprecedented global recession and extremely unfavourable trade and aid environment, he said.

Gen Ershad expressed his optimism that through sustained efforts pragmatic and self-reliant approach, the vicious cycle of economic stagnation would be broken to allow tangible benefits to flow for the welfare of the people.

Dwelling on the features of Bangladesh foreign policy, the CMLA said that his country continued to adhere to an independent foreign policy based on the abiding commitment to the objectives and principles of the United Nations charter, the Organisation of Islamic Conference and the Non-Aligned Movement. It is through our consistent effort to uphold the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal affairs of states and non-use of force or threat of use of force and the peaceful settlement of disputes that we can strengthen the rule of international law and usher in a more secure stable, peaceful and equitable world order, he added.

Expressing his gratitude for sharing common views on many international issues, Gen Ershad said as fellow members of the OIC, we reaffirm our determination to work unitedly for the solidarity and greater success of the Islamic nation in every sphere.

The CMLA expressed his growing concern over escalation of international tension and the continued deterioration of global economic situation endangering world peace and security and said continued presence of foreign troops in Afghanistan and Kampuchea was a violation of the principles of non-interference, non-intervention in the affairs of other states. "We believe that immediate and unconditional withdrawal of foreign troops will enable the peoples of these countries to decide their own future free from outside interference," he said.

Gen Ershad expressed his deep anguish over the scene in West Asia and said both Bangladesh and Turkey had condemned dastard aggression of Israel against Arab and Palestinian brothers. We firmly believe that a just, lasting and comprehensive solution of the West Asian crisis could be unconditional withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Arab lands, the restoration of Arab and Islamic sovereignty over the holy city of Jerusalem and the full restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to establish a sovereign state of their own in their homeland under the leadership of the P.L.O.

The CMLA welcomed the Arab peace plan which he said offers a fair basis for working out a just and acceptable solution to the West Asian problem.

Gen Ershad spoke of Bangladesh's "fullest support" for ensuring transfer of power in Namibia and Southern Africa to the representatives of the majority of people there.

The CMLA referred to the role of Bangladesh and Turkey as members of OIC committee on reconciliation of Iran-Iraq war and said we affirm our pledge to remain ever-prepared to support all efforts towards arranging cessation of hostilities between the two brotherly Muslim countries and hope that a peaceful and honourable solution to the disputes would be arrived at soon.

On South Asian region Gen Ershad said just as we cherish and strive for peace globally, we had also embarked upon a conscious plan of laying a solid foundation of peace in the neighbourhood and in the South Asian region. During my tenure in office I have consistently maintained that our relations with the neighbours should be based on goodwill, trust and understanding and on the respect for principle of sovereign equality he said, adding we are happy at and encouraged by the positive and constructive response received in this regard.

Gen Ershad also expressed his confidence that the initiative for structured South Asian regional cooperation would soon find a concrete shape in a dynamic form to ensure peaceful and beneficial cooperation in economic, scientific, technical and cultural fields to the mutual and common benefits of the countries of the region.

Full Text

Following is the full text of speech by Lt Gen H.M. Ershad ndc, psc, Chief Martial Law Administrator at the luncheon hosted by him in honour of His Excellency Kenan Evren, President of the Republic of Turkey on Friday.

Your Excellency Kenan Evren,
President of the Republic of Turkey,
Distinguished Members of the Turkish Delegation,
Excellencies, Gentlemen,

It is indeed a matter of great honour and privilege for me to extend to Your Excellency and the members of your delegation a very warm and cordial welcome to Bangladesh. We sincerely hope that your visit, though brief, will be pleasant and comfortable. We are confident that your visit will usher in a new era in our relations so happily rooted in our shared history, religion, culture and heritage.

Our two peoples are bound by abiding ties stretching over centuries. People of Bangladesh have boundless love and admiration for the fraternal people of Turkey. We in Bangladesh hold in profound esteem Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the founder of modern Turkey. Ataturk's ideals and achievements remain a constant source of inspiration not only for Turkey but for the Muslim world at large. In fact, the name of your illustrious leader is a household word in Bangladesh, Turkey and Kemal Ataturk are oft-quoted words in our language and literature. I am happy to mention that our national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam had composed one of his most famous poems extolling the ideals of Kemal Ataturk. It is indeed with a great deal of pleasure we participated in the centenary celebrations of the birth of this great leader with our brotherly people of Turkey.

[26 Dec 82 p 3]

[Text] Following is the remaining part of the text of speech by Lt Gen H.M. Ershad, ndc, psc Chief Martial Law Administrator at the luncheon hosted by him in honour of His Excellency Kenan Evren, President of the Republic of Turkey on Friday:

Excellency,

Historic changes have taken place in our two countries in response to the felt needs and aspirations of our peoples. Every nation has a recognised right to decide upon its own system, strategy and priorities to translate the popular aspirations, the ultimate objectives of which are the same--to bring about a qualitative improvement in the lives of our people so that they may live in dignity, free from fear and want. In the quest of shaping a better future for our nations it will be natural that we look forward to further sharing of our experiences.

It is in this context that we have closely followed the recently held national referendum on the Constitution which has received overwhelming approval of the Turkish nation. We once again express our warmest congratulations on this truly historic decision and on Your Excellency's election as the seventh President of the Turkish Republic. We have noted with keen interest the highlights of the Constitution ensuring absolute respect for rights and liberties of your nationals to live an honourable life within an atmosphere of national culture, principle of peace in the world, promotion of national unity, integrity and solidarity. We are certain that under your dedicated and inspiring leadership Turkey will achieve still greater success and glory in all fields.

Excellency,

In Bangladesh we too have traversed through a period of critical challenge. Seasoned by the struggle and sacrifice to win the freedom, the people of Bangladesh are committed with courage and determination to build a prosperous a happier future. In the nine months since this new Government assumed office, it has devoted its fullest attention and its entire energy to the task of nation-building. The fundamental objective is to generate strength and stability through self-reliant efforts of the people in all the spheres of national life. With the basic idea of having a Government near the people, our policy is to take the administration to the people to have their meaningful and direct participation for quick and effective decision-making geared to the needs of rural Bangladesh. Recently I had the privilege of inaugurating 100 new upgraded Thanas that would now onwards become the basic unit of field administration. We have been very encouraged by the overwhelming response of the people towards this positive measure of administrative decentralisation. We have decided to quicken the process of upgrading and strengthening about 450 thanas in all. These Thanas will be the real centres fully manned, financed and equipped to support and guide the nation-building development activities in the 68,000 villages--villages indeed where over 90 percent of our people live. We have also decentralised the High Court of Judicature to allow people to have recourse to justice nearer at hand without having to undertake costly, time consuming journeys to the capital.

Excellency,

In the economic sphere, Bangladesh as one of the Least Developed Countries has suffered seriously from the adverse external factors arising out of unprecedented global recession and extremely unfavourable trade and aid environment. We have taken utmost care in formulating our development programmes according priority attention to key areas of agriculture, population planning, energy and primary and technical education.

It is our earnest belief that through sustained efforts, pragmatic and self-reliant approach, the vicious cycle of economic stagnation would be broken to allow tangible benefits to flow for the welfare of the people.

Excellency,

We continue to adhere firmly to an independent foreign policy based on our abiding commitment to the objectives and principles of the United Nations Charter, the Organisation of Islamic Conference and the Non-aligned Movement. It is through our consistent effort to uphold the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal affairs of states, non-use of force or the threat of use of force and the peaceful settlement of disputes that we can strengthen the rule of international law and usher in a more secure stable, peaceful and equitable world order. We firmly believe that peace and development are inseparable.

It is a matter of profound gratification that our two countries share a similarity of views on many international issues. As fellow members of the Organisation of Islamic Conference we reaffirm our determination to work unitedly for the solidarity and greater success of the Islamic nations in every sphere.

As we review the international situation we cannot but express our growing concern over the escalation of international tension and the continued deterioration of the global economic situation endangering world peace and security. We have expressed our total opposition to the continued presence of foreign troops in Afghanistan and Kampuchea as a violation of the principles of non-interference, non-intervention in the affairs of other states. We believe that immediate and unconditional withdrawal of foreign troops will enable the peoples of Afghanistan and Kampuchea to decide upon their own future free from outside interference.

The situation in West Asia has caused us deep anguish especially the impunity with which Israel has been carrying out its dastardly acts of aggression against our Arab and Palestinian brethren. Both our countries have condemned the recent Israeli invasion of Lebanon and expressed shock and revulsion at the wanton massacre of innocent Palestinian and Lebanese people in Beirut. Our principled and unequivocal support to the Palestinian cause is well-known. We firmly believe that a just, lasting and comprehensive solution of the West Asian crisis can be based only on complete and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Arab lands, the restoration of Arab and Islamic sovereignty over the Holy City of Jerusalem and the full restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to establish a sovereign state of their own in their homeland under the leadership of the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative. In this context we have warmly welcomed the Arab Peace Plan adopted by the Arab Summit in September last as offering a fair basis for working out a just and acceptable solution to the West Asian problem.

We have consistently and collectively opposed the racist policies of South Africa and particularly the continuing acts of premeditated aggression by her against her neighbours. Our fullest support must be focussed towards ensuring that transfer of power in Namibia and Southern Africa is effected forthwith in favour of the true representatives of the majority of people in these two countries.

The Iran-Iraq conflict continues to cause all of us deep anguish. As members of the 9-member OIC Committee on Reconciliation of Iran-Iraq war, both our countries endeavoured sincerely to bring about an end to this fratricidal conflict. We affirm our pledge to remain ever-prepared to support all efforts towards arranging cessation of hostilities between the two brotherly Muslim countries and hope that a peaceful and honourable solution to the disputes will be arrived at soon.

Excellency,

Just as we cherish and strive for peace globally, we have embarked upon a conscious plan of laying a solid foundation of peace in our own neighbourhood and in the South Asian region. During my nine months in office I have consistently maintained that our relations with our neighbours should be based on goodwill, trust and understanding and on the respect for the principle of sovereign equality. We are happy at, and encouraged by the positive and constructive response received in this regard. It is in this context that I mention about the progress made in implementing the proposal for structured South Asian regional cooperation. We are confident that this initiative will soon find a concrete expression in a dynamic form to ensure peaceful and beneficial cooperation in economic, scientific, technical and cultural fields to the mutual and common benefit of the countries in our region.

Excellency,

We are greatly honoured by your visit. Bangladesh deeply values her friendship with your great country. It is our earnest hope that the process of our mutual cooperation and contacts will gather further momentum with this august visit. I am confident that this friendship and fraternal affinity will progress from strength to strength, not only because this is based on numerous ties of abiding nature but also because we share, cherish and strive for achieving common ideals. I thank Your Excellency and the distinguished members of your delegation for being with us today.

Excellencies, Gentlemen, may I now propose a toast:

--To the good health, long life and happiness of His Excellency President Kenan Evren.

--To the continued progress and prosperity of the brotherly people of the Republic of Turkey and

--To the ever growing and enduring friendship and cooperation between the Republic of Turkey and the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Evren's 24 Dec Speech

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 25, 26 Dec 82

[25 Dec 82 p 1]

[Text] Turkish President Kenan Evren said in Dhaka on Friday that there existed similarity of views between Turkey and Bangladesh on many issues which he hoped would continue also in the coming days, reports BSS.

He was speaking at a return banquet hosted by him in honour of President Ahsanuddin Chowdhury at Bangabhaban in Dhaka on Friday night.

President Evren referred to his talks with the CMLA Lt Gen H.M. Ershad and other Government leaders and said during the talks both sides explored possibilities of extending cooperation in different fields.

Following is the text of speech of President Evren at the banquet:

"Thanks for the hospitality. During our brief visit I saw myself affection for the Turkish people and great leader Kemal Ataturk. We shall keep pleasant memories in our heart.

"In our discussion with General Ershad and other responsible representatives we have seen there exists similarity of views between Turkey and Bangladesh and hope it will continue also in future. In addition to our identical views on many issues we also explored possibilities of extending cooperation on other fields as well. We had opportunity to see Kemal Ataturk High School for which I thank the Bangladesh Government. During my visit to the school we saw project for expansion of the same with real pleasure. Education is vital for progress for any nation. Under the dynamic leadership of great leader Kemal Ataturk 72 percent literacy has been achieved today in Turkey. Unless we achieve the target at 90 percent we shall remain under the domination of developed nations and cannot attain economic emancipation. I am glad to know from General Ershad that 50 percent literacy would be achieved in Bangladesh within a few years.

"Developing countries must help each other. I want to stress the point that God has not created the Muslims less intelligent than others. He has created all equal. Those who work hard develop themselves. That is how the developed countries had come up today.

"Thank you, Your Excellency, Mr President, and General Ershad for the hospitality during our visit to Bangladesh.

[26 Dec 82 p 3]

[Text] Following is the remaining part of the speech of His Excellency Kenan Evren, President of the Republic of Turkey, at the luncheon offered in his honour by His Excellency Lieutenant-General Hussain Muhammad Ershad, ndc psc Chief Martial Law Administrator and Commander-in-Chief of Bangladesh Armed Forces and President of the Council of Ministers.

We share the ideal of providing a better standard of living for our peoples in the economic, social and cultural fields. We proudly observe the efforts deployed by brotherly Bangladesh on the way to development. It is a source of satisfaction to learn the increase in Bangladesh's grain production last year. Despite heavy rains the farmers of Bangladesh have given an example in zeal and determination. We congratulate them wholeheartedly. We hope for the continuation of this achievement and wish friendly Bangladesh to become in the shortest possible time a self-sufficient country in foodstuff.

Turkey too, has followed the path of agriculture and agro-industries indicated by our great leader Ataturk and has never neglected agriculture while orienting herself towards industrialisation, Ataturk has emphasized the indispensable nature of agriculture for Turkey with these words: We seek the prosperity of our country primarily in agriculture and agro-industries. By saying that the masters of this country are the peasants, Ataturk highlighted the importance given to them.

This morning we have visited the Ataturk High School in Daganbhulya, which enjoys your keen interest and support. We all have been extremely pleased to see that the young generations are enlightened in such a cultural institution which bears the name of Ataturk. I am grateful to You for having provided us with this opportunity.

General,

The consultations we have had here briefly have strengthened my conviction that our relations will further develop. Turkey has reached a certain stage among developing countries. We are ready to cooperate with Bangladesh, our friend and brother, in order to benefit her from the experience and know-how which we have acquired on the way to economic development. We believe in the usefulness of continuous contacts which will relations in various fields. [sentence as published]

We shall be pleased to welcome Your Excellency in Turkey in the near future. We shall thus have the opportunity of reciprocating your hospitality.

With these, I raise my glass to the health of Lieutenant-General Ershad to the happiness and prosperity of the brotherly people of Bangladesh and to the friendship between the peoples of Turkey and Bangladesh.

Chowdhury's 24 Dec Banquet Speech

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 25 Dec 82 pp 1, 12

[Text] The President, Mr Justice A.F.M. Ahsanuddin Chowdhury on Friday night called for cooperation between Bangladesh and Turkey in various fields for mutual benefit states BSS.

"We can cooperate in many fields to our mutual benefit and concert our efforts in the different international forums to uphold and promote our objectives as members of the Islamic Conference and as developing countries" the President said at the return banquet hosted by Turkish President Kenan Evren at the Bangabhaban in Dhaka.

President Ahsanuddin said the visit of the Turkish President to Bangladesh was an "important landmark" in the development of relations between the two countries.

President Ahsanuddin Chowdhury said the "fruitful discussions and exchange of views" held during the Turkish President's visit would no doubt contribute to a further consolidation of our existing ties based on a similarity of approach to many problems.

Expressing his happiness over the feelings of the Turkish President towards Bangladesh he said these underlined the bonds of friendship and amity that exist between the two brotherly countries.

The President hoped that the Turkish leader during the course of his visit here had witnessed at first hand the "great fund of goodwill and admiration" that existed in Bangladesh for him and the Turkish people.

Full Text

Following is the full text of speech by President A.F.M. Ahsanuddin Chowdhury at the return banquet hosted by his Excellency Kenan Evren President of the Republic of Turkey on Friday.

Your Excellency President Kenan Evren,
Madam Senay Gurvit,
Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen

My wife and I are indeed grateful to Your Excellency and Madam Gurvit for the sumptuous dinner. We have been deeply touched by your kind words about me and my country which underline the bonds of friendship and amity that exist between our two brotherly countries.

During the course of your visit to our country you had, I am sure, witnessed at first hand the great fund of goodwill and admiration that exists in Bangladesh for you personally and for the people of Turkey. Such feelings are the direct outcome of the interaction between our two countries in the religious, cultural literary and social fields going back to the remote past.

Your visit to Bangladesh is an important landmark in the development of relations between Bangladesh and Turkey. The fruitful discussions and exchange of views held during your visit will no doubt contribute to a further consolidation of our existing ties based as they are on a similarity of approach to many problems. Together we can cooperate in many fields to our mutual benefit and concert our efforts in the different international fora to uphold and promote our objectives as members of the Islamic Conference and as developing countries.

Your Excellency you have made a lasting impression on our people. We shall cherish the memory of your visit. We hope that your stay in Bangladesh has been pleasant, enjoyable and fruitful. However much we would have liked to show you more of our country this was not possible as Your Excellency's visit has been all too brief. We hope that you will be able to spare more time during your next visit to Bangladesh to which we would look forward.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen may I now request you to join me in a toast:

--To the good health, long life and happiness of His Excellency President Kenan Evren and Madam Senay Gurvit.

--To the continued progress and prosperity of the brotherly people of the Republic of Turkey and

--To the ever growing friendship and enduring cooperation between the Republic of Turkey and the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Text of Joint Communiqué

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 26 Dec 82 p 3

[Text] Following is the full text of the Joint Communiqué issued today on conclusion of the visit of Turkish President Kenan Evren:

At the invitation of His Excellency Mr Justice A.F.M. Ahsanuddin Chowdhury, President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Begum Chowdhury, His Excellency Kenan Evren, President of the Republic of Turkey and his daughter Mrs. Senay Gurvit paid a state visit to the People's Republic of Bangladesh from 23 to 25 December, 1982.

The President of the Republic of Turkey was accompanied by His Excellency Iltir Turkmen, Minister of Foreign Affairs, His Excellency Sermet R. Pasin, Minister of State and other high officials of the Government of Turkey.

During the visit President Evren and his delegation have been accorded the most cordial and brotherly welcome by the people and the Government of Bangladesh reflecting their warm feelings of friendship for the people and the Government of Turkey.

Fruitful Exchange

The visit provided a valuable opportunity for a fruitful exchange of views on international issues of mutual interest with particular reference to their respective regions and on possibilities of further strengthening their bilateral relations.

At the official talks, His Excellency Kenan Evren, President of the Republic of Turkey and His Excellency Lieutenant General Hussain Muhammad Ershad, Chief Martial Law Administrator of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, led their respective delegations. The President of Turkey was assisted by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of State and high officials accompanying the President.

The Chief Martial Law Administrator of the People's Republic of Bangladesh was assisted by Air Vice-Marshal A.G. Mahmood, Minister of Food, Mr A.R. Shams-ud-Doha, Foreign Minister and Mr A.M.A. Muhith, Minister of Finance and Planning and high officials of the Government of Bangladesh.

The talks took place in an atmosphere of cordiality and mutual understanding which characterise the existing brotherly relations between the two countries.

The two sides reviewed Turkish-Bangladesh relations in various fields. They examined the prospect of economic cooperation between the two countries and affirmed their intention to further expand their trade and promote cooperation in the economic, industrial, technical and cultural fields. In this context they welcomed the signing of the first Cultural Exchange Programme and a Cooperation Protocol for Radio and Television within the framework of the existing Cultural Agreement between the two countries.

World Situation Reviewed

The two sides reviewed the international situation and noted with deep concern that the international problems threatening world peace had acquired new dimensions. In this context, they expressed their belief that it was necessary for the international community to preserve in the search for relaxation of tension in all parts of the world.

The two sides expressed their conviction on the need for making all efforts to promote world peace and security and to uphold the fundamental principles of international relations based on respect for sovereignty, equality, national independence and territorial integrity, non-interference in internal affairs, non-use of force or threat of use of force and settlement of international disputes by peaceful means.

They also reiterated the need for total adherence to the principles and objectives of the United Nations Charter. Furthermore, they urged for intensified cooperation among the member nations of the Organisation of Islamic Conference for speedy realisation of their aims and objectives in all fields.

Reviewing the current situation in the Middle East, the two sides strongly condemned the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and the massacre of the innocent Arab and Palestinian people for which Israel must bear responsibility.

They expressed their total support for all efforts to ensure immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon. In this context the two sides reiterated their firm conviction that a just and permanent peace in the Middle East can be achieved only on the basis of complete withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Arab territories including Al-Quds and the restoration of the legitimate and inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people including their right to establish an independent state in their own homeland.

President Evren and General Ershad expressed deep concern over the continued fratricidal armed conflict between Iran and Iraq, the two Muslim countries. They expressed their earnest hope that a peaceful solution to this tragic war would soon be reached. In this context they reaffirmed their support for the efforts of the Islamic Peace Committee and other initiatives aimed at finding a just and honourable solution to the conflict.

Afghan Issue

The two sides while reviewing the situation in Afghanistan reaffirmed their conviction of the need for a political solution on the basis of withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghan soil and creation of conditions there to enable Afghan people to determine freely their own destiny without any external interference or intervention.

The two sides further emphasized their view that international terrorism continues to be a serious threat to international community and vigorously condemned acts of terrorism in accordance with the relevant resolutions of

the United Nations and agreed on the necessity for effective bilateral and multilateral cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism and to ensure the protection of all diplomatic, consular and other official representatives in their respective countries.

Reviewing the continuing deterioration in the international economic situation which has assumed serious proportions and has affected both the developed and developing countries, the two sides reiterated the need for the immediate launching of the Global Round of Negotiations. They expressed concern at the increasing protectionism on the part of certain industrialised countries and affirmed their full support for all international efforts aimed at ensuring unimpeded flow of international trade. They also underscored the importance of increased economic cooperation among developing countries as a step to realise the objective of individual and collective self-reliance.

The two sides noted with satisfaction the existing close cooperation of their countries in the international fora and stressed that solidarity and cooperation among the Islamic countries would be to their mutual benefit and contribute to peace and stability in the world.

Gen Ershad outlined the current development in South Asia and in particular in Bangladesh. He also referred to the initiative of Bangladesh towards improving and strengthening her relations with the neighbouring countries through active cooperation in socio-cultural and economic fields and towards resolving peacefully all outstanding problems with her neighbours. The President of Turkey expressed admiration for these endeavours of the Bangladesh leader undertaken with a view to promoting peace, cooperation and harmonious relationship among the countries of the region.

The President of Turkey expressed his deep appreciation for the fraternal welcome and warm hospitality extended to him and the members of his delegation during the visit. President Kenan Evren extended cordial invitations to President Justice A.F.M. Ahsanuddin Chowdhury and to Lieutenant General Hussain Muhammad Ershad, Chief Martial Law Administrator, to visit the Republic of Turkey. The invitations were accepted with pleasure.

Cultural Accords Signed

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 25 Dec 82 p 1

[Text] Bangladesh and Turkey signed in Dhaka on Friday two agreements--a cultural exchange programme and a protocol on cooperation in the field of television programme, reports BSS.

Both the agreements were signed at the State Guest House shortly after the formal talks between the visiting Turkish President Kenan Evren and the Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt Gen H.M. Ershad.

The cultural exchange programme for 1983 and 1984 was signed by the Minister for Education and Religious Affairs Dr Abdul Majeed Khan and the protocol on television was signed by the Minister for Information Syed Najmuddin Hashim. On the Turkish side both the documents were signed by Foreign Minister Mr Ilter Turkmen.

The cultural exchange programme signed on Friday under the 1981 cultural agreement between the two countries provides that the two governments would promote and facilitate cooperation in the fields of higher education and science, information, cultural, sports and tourism training. The Turkish government will offer 11 scholarships yearly to Bangladesh students.

Official sources here hoped that the cultural exchange programme would help further strengthen the existing bond of friendship and brotherly relations between the two countries.

The protocol on television, also signed under the 1981 cultural agreement, provides for exchange of TV programmes produced by the respective organisations of the two countries. The two sides will participate on reciprocal basis in the television contests, festivals and other cultural events.

CSO: 4600/1564

OBAIDUR KHAN MEETS PRESS ON RETURN FROM DELHI

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 25 Dec 82 pp 1, 8

[Text] Agriculture Minister Obaidullah Khan said in Dhaka on Friday night that the projects of both Bangladesh and India for augmenting the dry season Ganges flows at Farakka would be taken up 'simultaneously and on an equal footing' for pre-feasibility studies, reports BSS.

Mr Khan said the decision was taken by the two countries at the just concluded Joint Rivers Commission at New Delhi.

Mr Khan who led the 14-member Bangladesh delegation at the three-day meeting which ended on Friday, was talking to newsmen at the Zia International Airport.

Bangladesh in its project had proposed construction of dams in Nepal for storing the monsoon flows of the Ganges and subsequently their release during the dry season for solving the sharing problems. India on the other hand, had proposed diversion of Brahmaputra waters to the Ganges through a link canal across Bangladesh for the purpose.

Elaborating Mr Khan's statement, a Bangladesh delegation spokesman later described the just concluded JRC meeting as the follow-up of the summit level New Delhi meeting of October 7 between the Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt Gen H.M. Ershad and the Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi.

The spokesman described the meeting outcome as positive and forward looking which, he said, reflected the goodwill and spirit of cooperation generated at the summit meeting.

The Indian side, he said, expressed its commitment to extend its full cooperation towards holding the pre-feasibility study of the Bangladesh project.

The JRC has designated members to the committee for holding the pre-feasibility studies of the two projects and charged with the task of drawing up terms of reference, he added.

It would also be the responsibility of the committee to prepare the work schedule for implementing the provisions of the memorandum of understanding reached during the last summit, he said.

The committee, he said, is to give its recommendations to the ministerial level JRC in four to six months.

Ministerial Level Meet

The 24th meeting of the ministerial level JRC would be held in Dhaka from February 1 to 4, he said.

The spokesman said the JRC meeting's outcome on three objectives was satisfactory.

He listed the objectives and implementation of the provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding reached during the last summit, finding a sharing formula for the Teesta and reviewing of the progress with regard to resolving the problems of smaller common and border rivers.

On the Teesta sharing question, he said the two sides reaffirmed their commitment made at the 22nd meeting of the JRC and later at the summit for expeditiously arriving at a solution.

The spokesman described the talk's outcome on the common border rivers also as 'very satisfactory particularly on the availability of waters in Manu-Muburi, Khowal and Gumti.'

The two sides agreed that further studies were required on Dudhkumar-Dharla, he added.

The local level committees of the JRC had been given three months' more time to study and report on the Dudhkumar-Dharla water availability, he added.

For resolving the problems of some of the smaller common river, the local level committees of the JRC has been reactivated, he said.

The spokesman said that some of the local level committees had already met a number of times and made some progress in resolving their problems.

JRC Meet Ends

BSS from New Delhi adds the 23rd meeting of the Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission concluded in New Delhi on Friday after initiating measures to find a solution to the complex Farakka problem within a time-frame of 18 months as asked by two heads of government.

The three-day meeting of the JRC set up a joint committee of experts to carry out the pre-feasibility studies of the proposals put forward by two countries to augment dry season flows of the Ganges, according to a joint Press release.

The meeting had assumed considerable significance being the first after Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt Gen H.M. Ershad and Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi gave a mandate to the JRC in October last to find a solution to the lean season problem of the Ganges in one and a half years time.

CSO: 4600/1564

MILITARY BANK REPORTS THEFT OF ASSETS

London THE ECONOMIST in English 29 Jan-3 Feb 83 p 89

[Text]

BANK SEPAH-IRAN

The following Certificates of Deposit were stolen from Bank Sepah-Iran in London during the weekend of 4/5th December 1982:

C.D. Issuer	Amount	Start Date	Maturity Date	C.D. Number
National Westminster Bank Ltd	£500,000	10.8.82	10.2.83	089461
—do—	£500,000	10.8.82	10.2.83	089460
—do—	£500,000	10.8.82	10.2.83	089462
—do—	£500,000	10.8.82	10.2.83	089463
Total Bank Ltd	£500,000	5.10.82	5.7.83	089043
National Westminster Bank Ltd	£500,000	23.9.82	23.12.82	T000230
—do—	£500,000	23.9.82	23.12.82	T000219
Long Term Credit Bank of Japan	£500,000	30.9.82	30.6.83	000006
—do—	£500,000	30.9.82	30.6.83	000007
—do—	£500,000	30.9.82	30.6.83	000008
—do—	£500,000	30.9.82	30.6.83	000009
Taiyo Kobe Bank Ltd	£500,000	12.10.82	12.10.83	000136
—do—	£500,000	12.10.82	12.10.83	000157
Bank of Tokyo Ltd	US\$3,000,000	15.10.82	15.4.83	004516
International Westminster Bank Ltd	US\$1,300,000	1.12.82	1.3.83	014376

Bank Sepah-Iran has obtained stop notices against the issuing banks for all the stolen Certificates of Deposit so that they are no longer freely payable on maturity. Any person or organisation who comes into possession of these Certificates of Deposit should immediately contact:

The Manager, Bank Sepah-Iran, 6-7 Bankhouse, London EC3N 1JT

CSO: 4600/231

IRAN

CONNECTIONS OF COMMUNIST UNION MEMBERS ON TRIAL TRACED

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 10 Jan 83 p 13

[Text] In continuing the investigation of the files of 30 members of the central cadres and other members of the heretical minigroup, the "Communist Union of Iran," known as the "Sarbedaran-e Jangal," who are accused of creating skirmishes on 26 January 1982 in Amol and killing the Hezbollah nation in that city, yesterday, the first branch of the Islamic revolution court of the capital held a session.

This session came to order in the presence of a large number of the families of the martyrs of Amol and some of the prisoners of Evin, under the supervision of Ayatollah Mohammadi-Gilani, the head of the Islamic revolution court of the capital, with recitations from the Koran.

Then, the bill of indictment against defendant no 5 of the court, Kamran Samimi-Behbahani, son of Habibollah, alias Sa'id, an active member and head of the distribution of the Communist Union of Iran publication in Tehran, was read by Brother Lajevardi, the revolution prosecutor of the capital. The charges are as follows:

1. Being an active force in and a member of the organization known as the Communist Union of Iran. He was active under two of the central members of the organization with the aliases of Mostafa and Daryush.
2. Being in charge of several "financial projects" for the organization, which are as follows:
 - A. A three-member nucleus of the organization would buy paper (in role form) and upon cutting them into various sizes, large

and small, they would sell them. The profits from such transactions would go to the organization. The defendant was in charge of this financial project.

B. In connection with the second project, the defendant supervised and was the contact between a clothing manufacturing unit and the organization. He paid 500,000 rials in cash from the organization to a member of the organization using the alias "Dordaneh," the profits from which were to be used to strengthen the organization financially.

3. Participation in the third congress of the organization in the presence of all the active central members and key figures of the organization. This congress was held for a period of one week in Mahd-e Kudak, which was one of the security cover locations of the organization.

4. Being in charge of collecting the financial contributions of the members and supporters of the organization, which included monthly membership dues and the cash contributions of the supporters under his direct supervision.

5. Providing his residence for organizational meetings of the members and supporters of the organization.

6. Infiltrating the Shahid Foundation through the organization under the alias of Taher Musavi. Taking advantage of his position, the above-mentioned took steps to employ several members of the organization in the Melli Shoe and Pars Minu factories.

7. The possession and concealment of several boxes of ammunition in his private home, which consisted of the following:

A. Eleven RPG bullets and the explosives for them.

B. Nearly 10 kg of black gunpowder.

C. Eleven American "bullet proof" vests.

D. "Seventy-three" sticks of dynamite, 100 detonators and 63 dynamite fuses as well as keeping another suitcase containing weapons belonging to the organization and, finally, transferring them to a member called Sohrab.

8. The defendant supervised several members of the organization, including members with the aliases Mas'ud, Mansur and "Ma'sum," his wife, and the supervisor of the Minu factory.

9. Being responsible for distributing publications for the members of the organization in Tehran.

Case on file: The above-mentioned defendant, some of the charges against whom were referred to, is one of the active members of this heretical organization. In the course of several years of activities in the various organizational areas, he played an effective role in strengthening and consolidating this organization. Since long ago, he has been familiar with this organization and in the United States, he was an active member of the Ehya' organization, which was affiliated with the Communist Union. The above-mentioned knew about the transfer of the forces of the organization to the forests of Amol and the armed uprising against the Islamic Republic and was too cowardly to report it. He has contributed his best efforts and has not hesitated in any way to advance the sinister goals of the organization.

The defendant then responded to the charges and the questions of the residing judge of the court.

The defendant expressed his hatred for the heretical Communist organization and said: I am not present before the court to defend myself, because I am aware of the charges against me and I consider myself guilty of the killing of the people of Amol, as one who participated in its planning.

He confessed: Contrary to the deceptive title of the Communist Union of Iran, the active members and supporters of this minigroup number fewer than 200 persons. Among this number, some splits took place which made the organization less effective in carrying out its heretical programs. In his defense, the defendant referred to the lies of the so-called united members of the Union to one another, expressed repentance for his criminal actions, admitted to all the charges in the bill of indictment and provided explanations for each one.

Defendant No Five

At the end of his defense and confessions, Kamran Samimi, defendant no five, pleaded in the name of the great families of the martyrs and the sacred court for a reduction in his sentence. According to this report, in the continuation of the trial in the morning session of the court, 'Abdolrahman Azmayesh, son of Ja'far, alias Daryush, defendant no six, was summoned to the court and began his defense against the charges, which are as follows:

1. Being a member of the central cadre of the heretical and belligerent organization of the Communist Union of Iran.
2. Being an operator and organizing director of the entire organization (Tehran committee). All the active forces in the communications, labor and provision divisions were under the supervision of the "Tehran committee," his responsibility.

3. Being in charge of the labor division of the organization. One of the major responsibilities of this division was to infiltrate the factories and to misguide and recruit workers for the above-mentioned organization, among them, for instance, the workers of Chit-e Rey, Melli Shoe, Hokhest, Minu and Iran National factories.

4. Participation in the third congress of the organization and being elected to supervise the workers of the organization in that congress.

5. Since the above-mentioned was a member of the Confederation in the United States and is also a very active and competent person, from the beginning of his membership in this atheistic organization, he was frequently promoted, such that in a short period of time, he was accepted to the congress of the organization and many practical responsibilities were conferred upon him. He continued his organizational activities in the upper organizational circles until his arrest. As was explained earlier, one of the responsibilities of the above-mentioned in his organization was over the workers' section. He supervised the several factories mentioned above and directed all the strikes and counterrevolutionary activities which took place in those factories. Also, at the time he was over the Tehran organization, all the activities of this organization in Tehran were carried out under his supervision. Another case was his effective participation in transferring the head of the Sarbedaran organization (Hoseyn Riahi) to the forest and dozens of other practical examples which can easily clarify the significance of being the head of the "Tehran committee" in the structure of a heretical and belligerent organization.

In his defense, the accused provided some explanations and admitted to all the charges in the bill of indictment. In conclusion, he repented his criminal actions and asked for God's forgiveness.

Charges against Ahmad Teymuri

Then, Ahmad Teymuri-Gorgani, alias "Hojjat," a member of the organization of the so-called Sarbedaran-e Jangal, took the stand in his own defense before the court as defendant no seven. The text of the bill of indictment of the defendant is as follows:

1. Membership in the Sarbedaran-e Jangal organization, affiliated with the Communist Union of Iran.

2. Membership in the reconnaissance group scouting for prospective locations for the camps of the Sarbedaran-e Jangal.

3. Participation in the skirmishes of 9 November, in which the defendant was armed with firearms.
4. Participation in the 13 November skirmishes in which his role was to keep watch and maintain security in the areas between the middle and lower camps of the Sarbedaran organization in the forest.
5. Participation in the provisional activities of the forest in transferring equipment and food from the road to the forest.
6. Participation in the escapes of the organization after leaving the forest for Tehran. (The above-mentioned lived along with other elements of the organization for more than three months in the forests of Amol.)
7. Organizational contact with the forest members and other members of the organization until early summer of 1982.
8. Sending copies of his picture and birth certificate to the higher members of the organization to forge a military discharge card. After the discovery and elimination of the above-mentioned minigroup, the copies of the picture and birth certificate of the defendant were found along with other internal documents of the organization.
9. Participation in the activities of the propaganda section of the organization, such as distributing leaflets, pasting posters in the early mornings, writing slogans and distributing Haqiqat publications.

In his defense, the accused admitted to all the charges in the bill of indictment and blamed the commission of such crimes on his illiteracy, inexperience and youth. He expressed repentance for his hideous actions and asked forgiveness from the Muslim nation of Iran and the sacred court.

This report indicates that at 12:00 noon yesterday, branch one of the Islamic revolution court recessed, after four hours of listening to the defenses of defendants no five, six and seven.

In this session, after recitations of verses from the Koran, Seyyed Asadollah Lajevardi, the revolutionary prosecutor of the capital, read the bill of indictment of Mohammad Reza Separgami, defendant no eight, and announced the charges against him as follows:

1. Active membership in the organization and previously being in charge of the Tehran committee and the Union organization.

2. Membership in the decision-making council of the "Sarbedaran" in the forest until 15 February 1982. The actions that took place in the forest were the result of the decisions of the members of this council.

3. Being a political supervisor over the "Mostafa Rahbar group" in the forest.

4. Direct participation in the insurrection of 13 November in the forest against the Guards Corps and military brothers, in which dozens of these beloved individuals attained martyrdom.

5. Direct participation in the "Razkeh" skirmishes in late fall of 1981. The aim of these skirmishes was to expand as much as possible the safe area for the Jangal members.

6. Direct participation in the tragedy of "26 January" and the attack on the martyr-nurturing city of Amol. On this day, the above-mentioned was directing the fighting against the Guards Corps brothers with a J-3 and a (three-way) and, for some reason, he went to Rezvaniyyeh district.

7. Responsibility for reconnaissance in marking the boundaries of the forest, the Haraz road and the mouth of the Haraz River on the instruction of the Jangal organization.

8. Putting his parents' home in Amol at the disposal of about 100 of the Jangal criminals, who lived there day and night until the attack began.

"Case on File"

The above-mentioned defendant is one of the active and sensitive figures in the heretical minigroup, the Communist Union of Iran. He began his organizational activity during the period 21 March 1979-20 March 1980 with this minigroup and for a short period, he became responsible for the workers' section of the organization and then was promoted to head of the organization for all Tehran. In early spring of 1980, he became a member of the council of the organization and took part as one of the main figures in the third congress. During the armed uprising against the godly regime of the Islamic Republic, he played a very effective role. While living in the forest for four months, he would frequently come to Amol to get reports on the military situation of the forces of the Islamic Republic. In his parents' home, he would make frequent contacts to recruit and transfer new members to the forest. Considering that the defendant is one of the local people, he was very helpful in the so-called rapid uprising of the "Sarbedaran-e Jangal." For this reason, one day before the attack on the martyr-nurturing city of Amol, he came to the city to mark certain areas. During the attack, the most

oppressed strata of the Hezbollah nation were martyred by these criminals and dozens more were wounded and disabled.

Considering what has been said above, the guilt of the above-mentioned is certain for the revolutionary prosecutor's office of the capital and I request of the honorable court that he be given the most severe punishment.

10,000
CSO: 4640/85

FIRST FIVE-YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN (1983-1985) PUBLISHED

Tehran IRAN PRESS DIGEST in English 18 Jan 83 pp 5-8

[Part I]

[Text]

1. Introduction

One of the initial steps in planning is to determine the general economic, social and cultural goals and policies. Such goals are presented by the society's political managers to illustrate the tendencies of economic and social system movements. In completing this stage the Economic Council has approved certain objectives in its session of 19.4.1982 based upon religious rules and clear guidelines of the constitution which was offered to Provincial Planning Councils, Ministries, and plan Budget Organization through a booklet called "The Results of Economic Council's Views and Guidelines on the report of quantitative goals of Socio-Economic Development of Islamic Republic of Iran during 1361-81 (1982-2002)." Subsequent to this step, Plan and Budget Organization supplied the quantitative goals and general policies of twenty years economic, social and cultural developments of Islamic Republic of Iran based upon the Economic Council's guidelines which was agreed to be used by planning councils as a starting point and to be corrected and completed after the required studies, when it was discussed by the Economic Council in June 1982. The booklet covers the next twenty years period and illustrates the major economic variations as presented by the Economic Council. Such outlook for the next twenty years will be revised biennially and the old estimates shall be adjusted and corrected by using the experience and the new information obtained.

Once the quantitative goals and general policies are set five years plans should be made. One of the initial steps to make a five years plan is to use the quantitative goals and general guidelines toward making the calculations of national accounts, exports, imports, employment, government budget and generally allocation of country's resources to different applications in a way that the society's economic, social and cultural systems are directed toward the determined goals. Such estimates and calculations are called as "Major Plan."

The present report is covering a five year major plan which is drawn based upon the quantitative goals and general policies set by the Economic Council and by benefitting the works results of different ministries planning councils.

The major plan is presenting the framework and generality of the five year plan. The district plans and provincial plans should be made with adequate details within the framework of major plan to develop and maintain coordination and in integrity in the overall state plan. The major plan is a basic tool to develop and maintain coordination among the different districts and provinces plans with each other on the one hand, and with the general economic resources of the country on the other. With our preparation and application of the major plan's framework in planning, the plans of different districts shall not have the required general and logical relation with each other and shall not form a general integral and objective plan, and commensurate with the economic resources of the country. The results arising from the major plan is specifically significant from the several points:

The major plan defines a framework so that the individual plans of districts and provinces in whole direct the country's economic and social system toward the goals determined by the society's representatives and political managers.

The major plan determines a framework to coordinate and place in logical relationship with each other the different sectors plans (agriculture, industry, water, power, gas, construction, etc.) so that for instance the production of power will be commensurate with power requirements of other sectors or the resources allocated to water supplying plans will be compatible with agricultural plans.

The major plan determines a framework in which the economic resources required by different sectors and provinces plans shall not exceed the total resources available in the whole country, as otherwise it will not be possible to implement the sector's and provincial plans. While the major plan presented in this report determines the framework of sectors plans, it should be noted however that planning is a process the different stages of which affect each other. This is particularly true in drawing stages of the first plan when the shortage of acceptable and reliable data and statistics is one of the problems and the different stages are affecting each other more frequently. The shortage of statistics is felt throughout the entire levels of planning; and district, provincial, as well as major planners have experienced the shortage of statistics. The need of society's administration and management requires indeed to act and decide on future planning putting the available data to the best use while trying to improve the statistics situation.

In any case the statistical weakness necessitates to stress greatly the flexibility of such stages in making the first plan during the different stages of planning and thus to increase the need to exchange ideas and the mutual corrections and amendments. Drawing the major plan as one of the stages of planning is also not excluded from this fact. Upon drawing the quantitative goals of the major plan which was used as the basis of planning councils work, certain results were achieved from the councils' activities, and the results achieved from planning councils were used in drawing the major plan and correcting the goals.

Having improved the planning in different councils based upon the major plan presented in this report and having obtained more accurate and larger amounts of data, the major plan will be revised and adjusted if necessary upon negotiations and exchange of views with districts and provinces provided that sufficient reasons are available.

The ultimate goal of the Islamic society is the human growth and development towards emancipation from any atheism and his movement toward God. The economic and social development should be an effort to remove the obstacles of human and Islamic people's growth and enhancement. The general goals and objectives of economic and social development in Islamic republic should be drawn upon Islamic laws and principles. Establishment of Islamic relations in society which is the object of divine instructions should be considered as the foundation and basis, and all goals, policies and plans are to be drawn and accepted in adherence to such basis. The general objectives of the country's economic and social development, in order to make the development in the service of man's growth and enhancement are as follows:

a) Education and Culture Development:

Illiteracy, lack of knowledge, and unfamiliarity with the Islamic culture is one of the obstacles of man's and Islamic society's growth and enhancement. This may have been perhaps the foundation upon which the thirtieth principle of Iranian constitution has prescribed that: "The government is responsible to provide the entire nation with free educational and cultural facilities up to the completion of secondary school, and free advanced education up to the extent of the country's self-sufficiency." Therefore one of the important goals and objectives of the country's development should be considered to be the fast development of public educational and cultural facilities to the end of secondary school in different lines commensurate with the country's requirements as well as to provide facilities for advanced education to meet the country's requirements, and to expand and publicize the Islamic culture. The educational development will naturally lay the foundation to eliminate the poverty and deprivation.

b) Ensuring the Interests of Oppressed:

The Iranian Islamic revolution is the revolution of oppressed people. Imam has frequently mentioned the important role played by oppressed people in revolution and has stressed the statesmen to support them and take actions to improve their conditions. A large majority of the present community of Iran is suffering from poverty and destitution. Poverty and destitution whether in its absolute limit which deprives the man the chance of living and whether in its comparative case as to the average financial condition of individuals and the pain or suffering derived from it is one of the obstacles of man's growth and enhancement. The constitution has also considered in its third and forty third principles the elimination of poverty and destitution and the establishment of Islamic justice as one of the goals and objectives of economic development.

In this field, activities towards reduction of difference between regions to benefit from country's facilities and helping the oppressed people of secluded and forsaken regions and provinces as well as the rural areas are the most important objectives toward elimination of depravity of oppressed levels of society during the first plan. Considering such objectives, the distribution of educational, health, infrastructural, production, and housing facilities and generally the government budget among regions should be handled in a way that while using the country's abilities, the more deprived regions are to receive more attention to reduce the substantial differences during the first plan and eliminate it during the future plans. Other goals and objectives of the plan in the fields of employment, housing, food, clothing, health, medical treatments, education and culture will be also providing the ground to ensure the interests of oppressed.

c) Ensuring Economic Independence:

Economic independence and self-sufficiency has been stressed and considered by the third and forty third principles of constitution. One of the obstacles of Islamic people's evolution toward perfection can be the economic dependence of an Islamic country. Such dependence shall provide the ground for economic, political and cultural domination of super-powers over our country making the Islamic people vulnerable. In order to alleviate such obstacles the country's development objective should be aimed toward economic independence. Achieving economic independence and self-sufficiency does not constitute a closed economy. Economic relations with overseas can and possibly should exist in an independent economy. However, when a country is economically independent its economic independence cannot be interrupted by making decisions and actions out of the country. In other words, economic independence can be achieved when if the import channels are closed at a certain period of time the country's economy will not fall and shall continue to operate as usual. Based upon this idea, the economic independence can be achieved when:

1. Essential consumer goods needed by people and other strategic goods are substantially produced at home, otherwise the country's economy will be tumbled when the imports of such goods are discontinued and acute shortage of essential goods are caused.
2. Intermediate goods to feed the economic activities and production capacity of country are to be substantially produced locally, otherwise economic activities will be interrupted leading to economic crisis and fall when the imports of such intermediate goods are discontinued.
3. There should be a chance to increase production capacities substantially by depending upon local economic and social activities. In other words, capital goods, skill, and technology required for development should be substantially supplied locally, otherwise the chance for development of production power will be restricted when imports of technology and capital goods are discontinued.

4. Country's foreign trade and exchanges should be based upon exports of goods produced locally (and upon mutual need with the contracting countries). In other words, the foreign trade should not be based upon the sale of national wealths reserves against receiving manufactured goods. Otherwise the country's economy dependent upon the export of a single commodity shall be dependent and vulnerable when a single mineral material (like oil) is exchanged with all types of imported goods.

CSO: 4600/246

PDP LEADER CHAUDHRI DISCUSSES POLITICAL CLIMATE, ELECTION POSSIBILITIES

Rawalpindi HURMAT in Urdu 18 Nov 82 pp 19-23

[Interview with PDP leader Arshad Chaudhri: "We Do Not Want the People To Take to the Streets and Create Anarchy. If the Present Government Wishes To Set Up a New System, It Should Hold a Referendum. Call for Holding Elections Under 1973 Constitution Unanimous"]

[Excerpts] Mr Arshad Chaudhri, acting president of the defunct PDP [People's Democratic Party] and former federal minister for science and technology, is very active these days in the political arena. In 1977, when the movement against the Bhutto regime was at its height, the residence of Mr Arshad Chaudhri in Islamabad had become the headquarter of the leaders of PNA [Pakistan National Alliance]. He strove during that period for the restoration of democracy. In 1978 when PNA decided to join the government and PNA leaders were taken into the cabinet, he was given the portfolio of science and technology. After leaving the government, following in the footsteps of his leader, Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, he once again renewed his efforts for the restoration of democracy. His party is a member of MRD. Last month, when Mr Arshad Chaudhri convened the MRD, he came to the office of HURMAT and there was a lengthy discussion on the political problems facing the country, some excerpts of which are presented here in the form of an interview.

[Question] Mr Arshad Chaudhri, what are your views on the present political situation in the country; in other words, what is the current political trend in the country?

[Answer] Which political situation are you talking about? At present there are restrictions on politics, there are no political parties and no political activities. Under such circumstances, there is not much that one can say about the political situation.

[Question] But despite all this, activities can still be seen in the political field.

[Answer] Yes, you are right. It appears that some political parties have been given the freedom to engage in politics. The government does not seem to be taking any notice of the political activities of some parties. For example,

Pir Pagara's Muslim League is continuing its political activities. The working committee of his party holds regular meetings. His party headquarters is humming with activity. Then there is the Jamaat-e Islami, which is also politically quite active. Mansura is the center of activities, meetings are being held and speeches are given. But no notice is taken of these activities. On the other hand, there are parties that have joined the MRD. There are no restrictions on parties outside the fold of MRD, but the activities of parties comprising MRD are banned, and martial law is strictly applied to these parties. For example, I was arrested on 14 August. A meeting was to be held in Rawal Pindi on the occasion of independence day and I was supposed to preside over it. The place where the meeting was to be held is called Iqbal Hall. I haven't even seen Iqbal Hall nor did I make any speech, yet I was arrested and a case was brought against me. In the FIR [First Information Report], a speech was also included in my ledger. On the one hand this kind of treatment is meted out to some people and on the other hand full freedom is granted to others.

[Question] How do you explain such discriminatory action?

[Answer] I think that Gen Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq is the person best suited to answer this question.

[Question] The president has repeatedly declared that elections are not far off and that the main object of holding elections is to transfer power to the elected representatives of the people. But despite these assertions, some circles say elections will never be held in this country. What is your reaction to these comments?

[Answer] There is a lot that we can learn from the attitude of the present government during its 5 and 1/2 years of rule. When the present rulers came to power, the people did not tell them that they should remain in power only 90 days, but they proposed a 90-day mandate themselves. They stated that their status was that of a referee. They pledged that they would hold elections and hand power over to the elected representatives of the people. Now, 5 and 1/2 years have passed, but still they have not fulfilled their promise. When PNA joined the government it asked them to set a date for elections and accordingly 17 October was agreed upon, but later they went back on their word. And now General Zia-ul-Haq has been saying openly that elections cannot be held.

[Question] Under such circumstances, what should be done to hold elections?

[Answer] We believe that the only way for holding elections is the one that has the approval of the people. In our view, the present system for holding elections is the right way because it was prepared by the elected representatives of the people and as such is considered to be beyond reproach. We call on the government to hold elections under this system. But we also have reason to believe that elections will be conducted under this system only if the rulers are convinced that after the elections they will still be able to remain in power. If they have any other system under consideration then they should come out with it and have it duly approved by the elected

representatives of the people. Similarly, if the government has other plans for resolving the prevailing situation and the problems facing the country, then these plans should be presented to the people. If the people approve these plans, then we will not hesitate to accept them.

Question In other words, you say that a referendum should be held?

Answer Quite true. If the government wishes to give the country a new administration, then it should hold a referendum on it. It is an established fact that no system can be enforced in the country against the wishes of the people. Ayub Khan, too, wanted to impose a new system on the people, but as soon as the people got the opportunity they protested and voted against it. Ayub Khan had to accept the will of the people. The people voted against the system of basic democracy and voted in favor of adult franchise and started a movement in support of their demand.

Question Some circles express the view that a peaceful and orderly transfer of power is only possible if a national government is established and that a national government can help pull the country out of the present crisis. What is your opinion on this?

Answer We have already gone through this phase. PNA joined the martial law regime and cooperated with the regime of its own free will with the express objective of coming closer to the goal of elections. Now there is no need to repeat this experience. One experiment is more than enough. Now if any national election is set up it will be to keep Zia's government in power. Since they came into power with the express objective of holding elections, they should live up to their commitment and duly hold elections.

Question PNA did not succeed in accomplishing the objective it had in mind when it started the movement and joined the government. Therefore, is it not correct to say that PNA was a failure?

Answer PNA did not fail in achieving its goal. It could not accomplish its objective because of the bad intentions of the government.

Question The present government claims that it invited some politicians to form a national government. If these politicians had formed a government, would that have obstructed elections?

Answer The main reason underlying such offers is to give the impression that the government is in contact with the politicians and that they in turn are cooperating with the government. I do not know of any politicians who are in contact with the government. But the government did make an offer to Asghar Khan, Wali Khan and Jatoi to form a government.

Question The president has also said that his team is the best team and that if there is any other team that can compete with it, then it should come forward.

[Answer] He first came forward as a referee; now he has become the captain of the team. We call on him to hold a referendum on his own record of performance and that of his government, or else MRD, which is the other team, should be given the opportunity to play. This game can be played on the electoral pitch. A game played without an opponent is no game at all.

[Question] Some circles call the present situation unpredictable. How can this situation be remedied?

[Answer] The responsibility for ending such a situation rests with the government. It should restore the 1973 constitution, hold elections, and hand power over to the elected representatives of the people. All of the political parties are in complete agreement in their demand over this issue. It is only by implementing this unanimous demand that a breakthrough can be achieved in the present deadlock. The people should be given the opportunity to participate in the affairs of the state, and this must be achieved not by nominations but through elections.

[Question] This was the main objective at the bottom of the idea of forming MRD, so that the movement for restoring democracy could be carried out on a wider scale. Can this movement reach a point where it might run the risk of a conflict with the government?

[Answer] As a Pakistani citizen, it is my sincere desire that our armed forces, as a national institution, acquire better capabilities. But when the army gets involved in politics it becomes the target of criticism. It is not right to criticize the army, but the army's continuous involvement in politics for the past 5 and 1/2 years has given rise to all kinds of speculation. We do not wish, God forbid, that people take to the streets and bring chaos and anarchy to the country. Whenever a political crisis occurs in the country, it is the army that intervenes to fill the vacuum. But when the people come out into the streets against the army, who will fill the vacuum?

[Question] It is about 18-19 months now since MRD was formed. During this period, how much progress has been achieved in its efforts to restore democracy?

[Answer] During these 18-19 months the MRD was busy getting organized. Besides setting up organizations in the districts, attention is now being given to forming organizations on the ward levels. The emergence of MRD gave rise to two different political trends: one was to support the forces demanding the restoration of democracy and the second was to side with the government. Aside from these two lines of action, there is no other alternative. This constitutes a clear victory for MRD.

[Question] According to one source, the holding of elections at this juncture would be tantamount to committing suicide because it would lead to an inter-play of ruble and dollar diplomacy. What is your comment on this?

[Answer] People who do not want elections have been spreading such rumors. The people of Pakistan will never be lured by either the dollar or the ruble. You can rely on their wisdom. If the people of Pakistan could be lured by lust for the dollar or the ruble, then Pakistan would never have been formed, because the Hindu did not lack financial resources. The Hindu could have prevented the creation of Pakistan on the strength of his capital wealth. But the people succeeded in establishing Pakistan. It is the people who do not wish to hold elections that are talking ruble.

[Question] Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan is politically quite active these days. Many political circles do not believe that all of his activities are inspired mainly by antagonism. What are your conclusions about Ghaffar Khan's activities?

[Answer] I believe that Ghaffar Khan's statements and activities are not important in the context of the political situation now prevailing in the country. Then again, Ghaffar Khan has said that the Afghan issue should be resolved through negotiations because we are not in a position to settle any problem with Russia through the use of arms. Pakistan is doing exactly as Ghaffar Khan has been suggesting. Pakistan has been sending its representatives to Moscow and to Geneva and has been expressing its desire to settle the Afghan issue through peaceful negotiations. There is no difference between his suggestions and the policy followed by Pakistan.

[Question] Mr Chaudhri, you took an active part during the movement started by PNA and you have played an important role in the unprecedented movement to restore democracy in Pakistan. But the movement did not succeed in achieving the cherished goal it had in mind when it was formed. Did you at any time have cause for regret?

[Answer] Last year during an interview with the Eastern Service of BBC, I stated that in Pakistan the game of "snakes and ladders" has been continuing for the past 30 years. Patriotic and democratic parties have always been striving to strengthen the basis of democracy and provide every opportunity for developing democracy in the country. But unfortunately when we were about to reach our goal we were stung by some powerful snakes. A movement was started against Ayub Khan; Yahya Khan came into power and he remained in office until the separation of East Pakistan. When a movement was started against Bhutto, Mr Zia came into power.

[Question] When will this game come to an end?

[Answer] Nothing can be said with certainty.

[Question] We were talking about the PNA movement. Some political observers and analysts believe that a political rapprochement between the government and the defunct People's Party was sabotaged by politicians themselves, who thus gave the army a pretext for taking control of the government. What is your opinion about this whole affair?

Answer Mr Bhutto is responsible for everything that happened. Perhaps you remember that PNA presented a 32-point program. But before it reached the discussion table one point was dropped and another was accepted by Bhutto. PNA had agreed that Bhutto would retain the office of the prime minister and Bhutto in turn had agreed to dissolve the National Assembly and hold fresh elections. The fact is that agreement had been reached (between PNA and Bhutto) but some clarifications were pending. Pirzada and Prof Ghafoor were to conduct talks. We had completed all of our obligations and now all of the responsibilities rested with the other party.

Question According to some people, Begum Wali Khan was responsible for the discord. They say she wanted to secure the release of NAP National Awami Party leaders through the army.

Answer That is incorrect. Bhutto had accepted the demand calling for an end to the Hyderabad Tribunal and the release of NAP leaders. It is a well-known fact that whenever a political organization engages in discussions with the government, it gives top priority to the release of its colleagues. This is always a precondition of such discussions.

Maulana Kausar Niazi is Telling the Truth

Mr Arshad Chaudhri, former federal minister and vice president of the defunct PDP Pakistan Democratic Party, when asked about Maulana Kausar Niazi's charges during an interview with HURMAT that former prime minister Bhutto had expressed willingness to share power with the army, confirmed Maulana's statement and said that he was telling the truth. When negotiations were proceeding between the government of the defunct PPP Pakistan People's Party and PNA, the latter had objected to the presence of General Zia ul-Haq on one or two occasions. He was said to have been summoned to clarify certain situations. Some leaders of PNA at that time believed that Bhutto had either already reached agreement with the army on some matter or that he was about to reach some agreement. Maulana Kausar Niazi's interview now confirms the rumors that were circulating at that time. However late, Bhutto knew a lot more on this matter, or General Zia ul-Haq himself can throw more light. Anyway, Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, the late Maulana Mufti Mahmood and Prof Ghafoor were against the intervention of the army.

Question Pir Pagara says that it was Air Marshal (Ret) Asghar Khan who invited the army to intervene.

Answer If political adventurers wish to try their luck, who can stop them from doing so?

Question One more question about your party. Some parties say that the members of your party, i.e., PDR, are so few that they can be counted on the tips of one's fingers and fit in a horse cart. Is this impression correct?

[Answer] It is Jamaat-e Islami that has been saying this. I would like to tell you that the number of workers in our party in any one district far exceeds that of all of the workers of Jamaat-e Islami combined.

9315

CSO: 4656/42

ANDROPOV ADVISED TO SET PRECEDENT FOR PEACE WITH AFGHAN SETTLEMENT

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 3 Jan 83 p 10

[Editorial: "Andropov's Desire"]

[Text] Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU, during an interview with the correspondent of an American journal said that war is a common enemy of both Russia and the United States and if we can succeed in preventing war it will be a great service to humanity. World war, or a regional war as in Afghanistan, in short, war in any form, is an enemy of the human race, and it is the top priority of every peace-loving nation, including Russia, to strive to stop it. This responsibility rests in particular with the superpowers, who have turned the world into pawns of their politics and threaten world peace by inciting smaller nations to fight one another, in the superpowers' interests, and using the battlefields for experiments with their weapons. The war imposed on Afghanistan by the Soviets is in its fourth year. One-fourth of the total population of this wretched country torn by war and indiscriminate bloodshed is living as refugees in neighboring countries. Russia has been spending tens of millions of rupees daily on the war in Afghanistan where cities, towns and villages have been razed to the ground. If this money were to be spent for the welfare of this country, then aside from serving humanity it could also serve to consolidate world peace, which Russia in particular claims is its objective. But today, because of Russia and the United States, besides Afghanistan, the people of Eritrea, Kampuchea, Palestine and other countries are faced with devastation and have been forced to leave their hearths and homes. If Andropov so desires, a political solution can be found for the Afghan issue, and this could set a precedent for the United States, whose boundless aid to Israel has deprived the Arab world of peace and tranquility. If Andropov were to withdraw Russian forces from Afghanistan as a gesture to start a new era, then the setback suffered by Russia during the period of his predecessor could be remedied. If he then extended an invitation to the United States for a peaceful settlement, no one would be able to point a finger at him and he would have set a precedent before preaching.

9315

CSO: 4656/67

SOVIETS ADVISED TO SAVE FACE, WITHDRAW FROM AFGHANISTAN

Lahore JANG in Urdu 3 Jan 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Persistence in a Mistake"]

[Text] In a statement, the Soviet News Agency TASS has made it clear that it would be self-delusion to expect any change in the Russian position regarding Afghanistan and that Russia intends to carry out to the end its international duty to defend Afghanistan against armed intervention from outside. The TASS statement expressed optimism regarding the talks scheduled through the United Nations and said that progress toward a political solution would be made in these negotiations but that direct talks with Kabul were necessary at the same time.

The TASS statement has ended the expectation in some circles that the change of leadership in Russia might bring about a change in its policy regarding Afghanistan. Andropov himself has not made any statement since his accession to power indicating that any change or softening has taken place in the Russian position. No move has been made to reduce the number of Russian troops in Afghanistan, nor has the intensity of their activity decreased in any way. The use of lethal chemical weapons increased after the new leadership came to power and large numbers of women, children and old people were martyred in several incidents. All this shows that instead of correcting its mistake in Afghanistan, Russia has decided to persist in following the same course.

TASS's claim that Russia intends to persist in its aggressive stance will be tested in the forthcoming UN talks. Any Russian effort to obstruct these talks will clearly prove that it is still hopeful of making Afghanistan a satellite country and has not learned any lesson from the human and financial losses suffered during the last 3 years. Russia's insistence on direct negotiations with the Kabul government constitutes such an obstruction. If Russia's interest in these talks is based solely on the consideration that they will later on bring recognition for the Kabul government and allow it to enter negotiations, then it is easy to see what the result of these talks will be.

Russia should not make the mistake that the United States made in Vietnam. As far as Russia's fear that if Russian troops withdraw, foreign intervention will start in Afghanistan, is concerned, the basis for this apprehension can be alleviated. In the UN talks, provision can be made to ensure that no

country, including Russia, will disturb Afghanistan's nonaligned status; that good relations will exist between Afghanistan and all countries including neighboring countries; and that relations with Russia, which is a close neighbor, will be even better and more pleasant. Good relations with one power should not negate good relations with any other power. A clear and strong guarantee of this kind will satisfactorily dispel Russian fears that the withdrawal of Russian troops from Afghanistan will endanger Russian interests in that country.

This is the only guarantee that Russia can insist on; if it should want anything more, and should try to impose a government and system of its own choosing on that country, the result will be the intensification and protraction of the Mujaheddin's war of freedom, a war that will never end. Russia will ultimately have to leave Afghanistan, if not today, then tomorrow; but its withdrawal then would be attended by great regret and chagrin. Russia will pay a heavy price for persisting in its mistake, and the withdrawal of Russian troops after paying such a price would bring Russia only shame and dishonor. Our advice to Russian leaders is that they should be prepared to accept a free, unaligned and Islamic Afghanistan that will prove itself a good friend and neighbor; hence, the Russian leaders should cooperate in making the UN negotiations successful and abandon their policy of persisting in their mistakes.

9863

CSO: 4656/66

ESTABLISHMENT OF ISLAMIC SOCIETY TERMED MORE TALK THAN PRACTICE

Lahore CHATAN in Urdu 26 Dec 82 p 5

[Editorial: "Why Is There No Change in the Real State of Affairs"?]

[Text] There is not the slightest doubt that President Zia's trip to the United States was a success. It is a matter for satisfaction that everywhere the president presented Pakistan's stand with courage and at no time adopted an apologetic attitude. Support for the Palestinians, friendship with the Islamic world and the people of China, the Afghanistan problem, the peaceful atomic program—in all these matters Pakistan's position was set forth without any reservations, and the approach had the desired effect. Questions were asked regarding Pakistan's domestic situation, and the president gave assurance that an Islamic republic would be established within the next 2 or 3 years. The president deserves praise for having presented the Islamic point of view at every juncture with complete assurance and confidence. He said that efforts were being made in Pakistan to cast the social order in an Islamic mold. One cannot help applauding the fact that the president always spoke of Islam and Pakistan's basic ideology. None of the country's leaders or high officials before him had ever had the grace to talk of Islam in this manner; their faces always betrayed the awe that they felt for the West's material progress and the meretricious glitter of its culture. It is all very well to talk of the truth and sincerity of Islam and its enlightened teachings, but what is really needed is to present a practical model to the world. We feel no compunction in saying that the talk of Islam is reaching the stage where the danger of indifference is growing. The question really is, what is being done to bring the social order in line with the teachings of Islam? How far has Islam, which personifies mercy, provided solace to the suffering? The system of zakat [religious tax] has been established, which should have put an end to the practice of begging and provided for the needs of the poor, the destitute and the helpless. But begging continues unabated. Reports have surfaced regarding misuse of the money collected for zakat. Crime not only continues unabated, but incidents of serious crimes have increased. The fact is that the people cannot sleep in peace at night. The bitter truth is that most of the complaints that the people have concern the same individuals and organizations that are entrusted with guarding the people's lives, honor and property. Who does not know of the all-encompassing epidemic of bribery and nepotism? Exhortations and sermons continue, but no major bribe-taker has been brought to account nor have the names of those guilty of nepotism been made

public. We have emphasized in the past the necessity for paying attention to the problems of the people. Emergency measures should be taken to put an end to robberies, burglaries, murder and mayhem; efforts should be made to control the rising cost of living; justice should be made easily accessible and the administrative machinery should be utilized to serve the people. The basic requirement of an Islamic system is that the actions and character of government employees should provide a model for others; their ability, honesty and devotion to duty should be above reproach. It is rumored that on his return from the tour of Southeast Asia, the president ordered that the luggage of the members of his entourage should be inspected; as a result, some of these individuals had to pay thousands of rupees in customs duty. Where did they obtain the currency to buy all these goods? And what did they do on earlier occasions? When the situation is such, and still the talk of Islam continues, what results can be expected to ensue? Five or 6 years are a long time to reform the administrative machinery and find capable and honest individuals to fill important posts. We are not ready to accept that we do not have honest individuals; what is really required is the ability to select them.

9863

CSO: 4656/68

MOVE TO OVERCOME GAS SHORTAGE PLANNED

Karachi DAWN in English 14 Jan 83 p 1

[Text] ' The Federal Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum, Mr Mukhtar Masud, is rushing to Karachi from Islamabad today to review the situation arising out of gas shortage in the city and the increase in gas and petroleum prices.

Mr Masud will preside over a meeting of officials of all the allied gas and petrol distribution agencies on Jan 15.

The Karachi Gas Company will hold a meeting with the officials of Pakistan Steel and Karachi Electric Supply Corporation, the main consumers, also on Jan 15, to devise ways and means to overcome the present shortage of gas.

The Managing Director of Karachi Gas Company, Khan Tariq Hamid, said yesterday that Karachi was facing additional shortage of 20 million cubic feet of gas daily due to rise in demand. Among other things, a number of closed textile mills had begun operations since last month, he said.

He said the Sind Government had also been approached to find ways how to adjust the distribution of the available supply of gas.

Causes of shortage

The Karachi Gas Company had suggested closure of about 50 industrial units every day on rotation basis to overcome the existing crisis, official sources said.

They said the problem had aggravated owing to increased demand of about 18 million cubic feet gas daily in the industrial sector. The only solution was closing down of industrial units on rotation basis.

The sources attributed the shortage to increased demand by Steel Mills from 16 million cubic feet gas a day to its allocated quota of 26 million cubic feet a day; revival of sick industrial units; normal expansion and commissioning of new industrial units etc.

The allocation was 60 million cubic feet daily to KESC which is underutilising its quota, 26 million cubic feet daily to Steel Mills, 16 million cubic feet daily to cement factories; and 78 MCFD to industrial, domestic, and commercial consumers.

Crisis was foreseen

The sources said the present gas supply crisis was foreseen by the

gas distribution agencies as far back as the middle of last year and the Government had been informed.

As a consequence, they said, the Economic Coordination Committee of the Federal Cabinet took the decision of load-shedding of gas in November last, but with clear instructions that bulk consumers like KESC and Steel Mills would not be affected by it.

Obviously, the load-shedding of gas, they said, had to be borne by the industrial, commercial and domestic consumers.

The Karachi Gas had also approached owners of industrial units individually to curtail gas consumption so that pressure could be maintained in the pipeline, but there was no response from them.

Under such circumstances, the sources added, there was no alternative but to curtail the gas supply to industrial units and hence the cement factories were denied gas during the last two days so that pressure could be maintained in the pipeline.—PPI APP

MINISTER JUSTIFIES GAS, OIL PRICE HIKE

Karachi DAWN in English 14 Jan 83 pp 1, 6

[Article by Hasan Akhtar]

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Jan 13: Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Federal Finance Minister on Thursday stoutly defended the latest increase in gas and oil prices, asserting that the widening gap in gas supply and demand called for major development investments for which funds had to be mobilised by rationalising the gas price structure.

The Finance Minister explained that the increase in oil prices became inevitable because of the de-linking of Pakistani rupee from the US dollar and the current depreciation in the value of most of the major currencies in relation to US dollars, resulting in higher cost in POL imports.

He however, sought to assure that the latest increases in gas and POL would not create major impact on consumer prices or cost of industrial production in the country. All the same, he frankly admitted, the nation would have to continue to pay higher cost of energy-related services in the years to come.

At a Press briefing, the Finance Minister said that the cost of Gas-based industrial production was estimated to rise by a mere 0.67 per cent as a result of the latest gas rise while the WAPDA electricity charges might be up by one paisa per unit, maximum after two or three months from now. He said fertilizer prices would not be raised because some rise was imposed not too long ago. Similarly, he promised cement prices would not be raised for the present although the cement of factories mainly use gas for their operation. He also expected a slight rise in oil run trans-

port fares but maintained that they should be minimal.

He said in order to conserve gas reserves and prolong their life, one of the measures adopted by the Government is to direct gas-based cement factories to switch over to electricity.

Supply & demand

The Finance Minister said at the present average 12 per cent growth rate in gas consumption in the country, there was a shortfall of 309 million cubic feet per day in gas supply and demand as against the estimated supply of 669 million cubic feet the demand was 978 million cubic feet necessitating load-shedding in recent winters.

He warned that the situation was expected to get worse because even the present supply was becoming difficult to maintain without some urgent measures and investment of estimated 220 million rupees between now and 1985, which he admitted was a very large investment in the context of Pakistan's economy.

He said this involved not only ways to maintain gas compression in the existing gas fields but also sinking of new wells to augment gas supply.

The new gas field in Pirkoh, he further said, would require about Rs. one hundred crore investment as against Rs. twenty crore previously envisaged, if about 40 to 46 million cubic feet more gas was to be pumped from Pirkoh for use. In fact, the investment by 1990 for gas development in Pakistan might be around Rs. 550 crore, he added.

The Finance Minister said that there had been some suggestions that funds for development of gas resources could be found without revising the price structure. He said that a market loan for gas development could not be obtained at the present gas price structure while the gas companies which were in private sector, also pleaded for improvement in the price structure to enable them to undertake development.

Cost comparison

He said while he would not deny the impact on consumer of the latest gas price hike, he was certain that it would be minimal. He also pointed out that gas cost one-fifth of the expense on kerosene and about one-eighth of the expenditure on firewood. The comparison clearly showed that the gas price increase did not really hurt the lowest strata of society.

Clarifying an impression that Government tax on POL imports mainly caused higher oil prices to the consumers, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan said that on Rs. 2286 crore worth of POL, the Government taxation amounted to Rs. 104 crore. In the period prior to 1974 (before the oil exporters started raising prices) the Government was able to collect by way of tax about Rs. 100 crore on POL imports worth only Rs. 60 to 70 crore.

He claimed that if a comparison was made, it would be evident that the present incidence of tax on per dollar import was very low, merely 7.5 per cent, as against 200 per cent eight years ago. In fact, the element of tax had almost disappeared, he asserted.

The Finance Minister while replying to some questions, did admit miscalculation on the availability of gas supplies on the part of those responsible. But now, he said, the effort to discover new oil and gas reserves has been intensified and at present 32 wells were being drilled or worked as against six wells per year in the past. The present average of exploration was twelve wells per year, he pointed out.

Asked what happened to the expectations that the Islamic oil exporting countries might extend assistance to non-oil producing Muslim countries by offering oil at reduced prices, the Finance Minister replied: "We are waiting for that day to come."

Answering another question, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan said: "It is not possible to go for spot buying of oil at prevalent low world prices in view of Pakistan's long-term oil purchase agreements from dependable sources."

Only alternative

APP adds.

Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan said that the only alternative to the recent increase in oil and natural gas prices was deficit financing, while the increase will add only 0.67 per cent to the cost of industrial production.

He said that deficit financing would have created a much worse effect on the economy, in sharp contrast to the increase in the price of petroleum and gas.

The Finance Minister analysed the possible impact which the price increases can create, as well as the steps being taken to expand production of natural gas and domestic crude oil.

He said: "If the oil prices were not raised, the loss being incurred by the oil refineries would have to be picked up by the Government." "It would have meant a greater deficit financing, and in that case the effects on the entire economy would have been much hard", he added.

The gas price hike was necessary to meet the growing investment costs of the natural gas not only to explore and develop new reserves, but also to maintain, and later step up, production of the existing fields which now require expensive compression equipment, he thought.

The Finance Minister said there has been some criticism over the government's decision to increase the petroleum and gas prices. This criticism, he said, is based on lack of information.

He said the country is currently facing a deficit of 309 million cubic feet daily (MMCFD). The situation has arisen because, over the years, the investment in gas production has been slow, while the investment cost of producing gas has been steadily going up. Funds were not available from the market, because the prospective investors or those who may have provided aid, were not willing to do so, as they did not expect an adequate or an assured return.

The increased price will also introduce a measure of rationing of

gas consumption, and result in some conservation, he thought.

The Minister said that based on a survey of manufacturing industries in 1975-76, the fuel cost as a part of the total cost of production is 0.67 per cent. It means, the cost of the manufacturing industry may go up by two-thirds of a per cent. However, the actual impact on industry may vary according to the pattern of energy-use of each industry and industrial unit itself. This is because some units depend on gas more than others.

Gas consumers

The domestic consumers of gas will not be affected, because rates have not been increased for them.

He informed a correspondent that the cost of living situation is very stable. According to the statistics available till November last year, the annual increase in the consumer price index works out to an annual rate of two per cent, he added.

The Finance Minister said no increase has been made in the price of kerosene oil which is used by the common man, or light diesel oil consumed by stationary pumps.

He said there has been criticism, claiming that the price of other petroleum products was increased while the international prices of crude are either declining or are static. The prices of crude are not declining, though they may be static, he added.

He said the buyers of crude on the basis of long-term contracts are currently having static prices, but these are not declining. Giving the

advantages of long-term buying contracts, the Minister said when crude was being sold at the rate of dollar 40 to 50 a barrel in the spot market, Pakistan was buying it at dollar 28 per barrel, which slowly rose to dollar 30, then dollar 32, and still later to dollar 34 a barrel. In this way Pakistan has benefited monetarily, and has enjoyed assured supplies. It has saved itself from the uncertainty and the attendant disadvantages of the spot market.

Fare hike

Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan said if the price of crude had stayed at dollar 34 a barrel for Pakistan — in dollar terms — the rupee has depreciated in terms of the American currency which Islamabad uses to buy oil. The increase in petroleum prices will meet the deficit which was caused by depreciation of the rupee in terms of the dollar, he added.

Asked whether the oil price hike will encourage inflation, the Minister said, the Central Board of Revenue has worked out its impact. He said the increase in petrol price will mean an increase of one paisa per maund of freight carried by trucks. The bus fare hike for a passenger will be two-thirds of a paisa per mile. The taxi fare works out to around ten paisa per mile. Asked whether these figures will be used by the provincial and other authorities to deal with the demands for fixing exorbitantly high freight and passenger rates in view of the oil price increases, the Minister replied in the affirmative.

MINISTER DEFENDS DELINKING OF RUPEE

Karachi DAWN in English 14 Dec 82 p 6

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Jan 13: The Federal Finance Minister, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, said on Thursday that the delinking of Pakistan rupee with American dollar was a defensive device to avoid the fate that has befallen a number of South American and European countries and an impending crisis.

In a statement issued at a Press conference here, the Finance Minister countered the criticism and the speculation being carried out in the country by various circles, including the Press, particularly after the increase of oil and gas prices.

Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan said that the delinking of the rupee from the US dollar has produced the desired results and has allowed Pakistan to maintain steady growth and stability in a period of world crises of

unprecedented magnitude.

The Finance Minister said that because of the delinking imports have been restrained and have not increased in volume terms. He said it was imperative to bring about the above development to get the balance of payments manageable.

Mr Ishaq Khan pointed out that Pakistan has been able to make orderly adjustments when country after country, in the developing world is succumbing to crisis. The debt problems of Poland, Argentina, Mexico and Brazil have threatened the world's financial system and rescue operations are being rushed to these countries.

The Minister explained, at length, the background of the delinking decision he himself had announced on Jan 8, 1982 and its effects on the economy.—PPI APP

CSO: 4600/234

REPORT CITES DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS PROBLEMS

Karachi DAWN in English 14 Jan 83 p 22

[Article by Shadaba Islam]

[Text]

BRUSSELS, Jan 13: European Community (EEC) funded development projects in Pakistan have suffered from major implementation delays and some financial problems, says a report published in Brussels by the EEC's Court of Auditors.

The Community's financial watchdog body sent experts to visit six of the eight Pakistani development projects financed by the EEC between 1976 and 1981 for a total of 39 million dollars. The investigation was part of an overall study of the effectiveness of EEC aid to the Third World in 1982 drawn up by EEC auditors.

Although the report stresses that "all projects form a considerable contribution to the development of Pakistan," the EEC's audit body notes that "the majority of the projects visited suffer from delays in implementation."

These delays result "either from the length of local administrative procedures for approval of the

proposals, or from unforeseen technical incidents during work", says the report.

One example of "lost payments" for an EEC-financed project in Pakistan is also highlighted by the study.

The Court of Auditors emphasises that although the delivery and distribution of European food aid to Pakistan has been "properly carried out," Pakistan has not always respected its "obligations towards the Community". Reports on the unloading and distribution of aid and the use of counterpart funds have not been sent to the EEC's Executive Commission by Pakistan, stress the auditors.

There is also criticism of the fact that the counterpart funds resulting from the sale of EEC food aid which totalled about 40 million dollars had not been used for the financing of development projects. "They remained unused in various bank accounts", says the study.

The Commission should have en-

couraged Pakistan to use the money for "easily identifiable projects", recommends the court.

In response to the criticism, Commission experts stress that the use of food aid funds is "complex" in some countries and that "though individualised, accounts in Pakistan are integrated into the national budget which makes it hard to identify the projects they are funding in whole or in part.

The Commission emphasises that "it must nevertheless be said that Pakistan has very successfully mounted a dynamic programme to achieve self-sufficiency in food".

The Court of Auditors also warns that "since responsibility for the various types of Community aid to Pakistan and for the various stages of implementation of the aid is divided between some ten divisions at the Commission, and since there is no local (EEC) delegation, contacts between the Commission and Pakistan are neither regular nor coordinated".

EARLY CLOSING OF SHOPS TO SAVE ENERGY

Karachi DAWN in English 15 Jan 83 pp 1, 6

[Text] ISLAMABAD, Jan 14: Statutory closure of all shopping centres and establishments at 5.30 p.m. daily has started in most of the country on Friday, as a part of nationwide drive to save energy during the current power shortfall.

The Governments of Punjab and NWFP under the West Pakistan Shops and Establishments Ordinance 1969 have ordered that shops and commercial establishments should be closed by 5.30 p.m. daily with immediate effect.

The order does not apply to restaurants, hotels, medical stores, clinics, railway stations, cinema houses and other establishments exempted under Section Five of the Ordinance.

Statutory closure of shopping centres after 6.30 p.m. is already in practice in Karachi.

According to official sources such order is not required for the province of Baluchistan where shopping centres are generally closed before nightfall.

WAPDA's call

The Water and Power Development Authority had requested the administration of four provinces for statutory closure of all shopping centres after 5.30 p.m. daily with immediate effect.

WAPDA had made the request to the Chief Secretaries of the four provinces.

The sources said the statutory closure of the shopping centres is expected to continue till the middle of the next month.

Mr Aslam Bajwa, Administrator, Islamabad also ordered the local

shopkeepers to close their shops after 5.30 p.m. daily from Friday till further order.

A meeting held in Rawalpindi on Friday chairmanship of the Commissioner, Rawalpindi Division, Mr Mohammad Afzal Kahut, discussed the energy conservation details with the shopkeepers, representatives of the Chambers of Commerce and other business establishments.

The Commissioner agreed to relax the restrictions in case of establishments which could make their own arrangements of lights using generators, lamps, candles etc.

The Commissioner told the meeting that there was complete ban on using decorative illuminations, exhibitory in nature including neon signs etc.

Mian Abdul Majid, former Secretary, Pakistan Muslim League, Rawalpindi Division and President of Anjuman Tajran-i-Rawalpindi, however, said that a number of traders, particularly the fresh fruit and vegetable dealers will be affected due to the closure of shopping centres after 5.30 p.m. hence the Government should change this schedule in the best interest of the public and statutory closure should be after 8.30 p.m.

Sind province

Our Staff Reporter adds: The Centre's directive about the statutory closure of all shopping centres after 5.30 p.m. daily has been received in Karachi and it will be implemented in Sind province in a day or two, officials said.

The provincial Government will

hold consultations on Saturday with the related agencies after which an announcement with a set programme applicable to the whole of the province will be made.

The decision to close shops after 5.30 p.m. daily has been made to overcome the current power shortfall in the country and will come into force in all the four provinces.

According to reports, hospitals, clinics, hotels, chemist shops, cinemas, newspaper offices etc. will be exempted from the statutory closure.

Mr Mohammad Shakeel, member, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Karachi, has pleaded that shopkeepers in Karachi's outlying colonies, such as Landhi, Korangi, Malir and New Karachi, should be exempted from the closure order.

In a statement he said that the order to close shops after 5 p.m. daily would affect business and industrial output adversely and, besides, it would create the livelihood problem for the petty shopkeepers.

Mr Shakeel urged that these shopkeepers may be allowed to use only two bulbs of 100 watts so that not only their petty business is not affected but also the office employees and factoryworkers who are free in the evenings after day's work and come to do shopping, may not be put to inconvenience.

He said the authorities, on the other hand, should deal severely with those indulging in the theft of electricity, cut down the PTV programmes and put a ban on the use of neo-sings and of lights during the marriage receptions.

DISCUSSION OF RELIGION IN POLITICS, PARTY ROLES

Karachi JANG in Urdu 9, 10 Dec 82

[Article by Irshad Ahmad Haqqani: "Religious Differentiation and Discrimination Among Political Parties"]

[9 Dec 82 p 3]

[Excerpts] We are well aware of the fact that Hindu-Muslim riots are common in India even today. Elements favoring extremism still exist among Indians. Rather, as usual, certain individuals would still call and think of the Congress as a party prone to sectarianism. They would insist that India, or the Congress, has never proven allegiance with true patriotism and secularism, and that Congress is a patriotic party in name only. In reality it was and is an Indian organization. Any Indian party, no matter what it is named or what form it takes, would still be prone to sectarianism. This is a school of thought that has always existed among us. This viewpoint carries some weight too. Nevertheless, our discussion here is not of an exemplary nature; we are just making a comparative study. In this regard, our opinion as to whether the Congress was a standardbearer of true or false, real or deceptive nationalism and secularism, does not matter. Today, Indian politics has functionally adopted this nationalism and secularism. The political philosophy of Congress is today the overpowering political philosophy of India. The formation of the Janata Party in 1977 was the first decisive turning point in this change or evolution. This, to a great extent, ended the era of parties prone to Hindu sectarianism in India, and after their new organization was renamed the Janata Party, India's largest sectarian party or parties followed the path of disassociating themselves from their former political philosophy and thinking.

Contrary to this, on what lines did Muslim politics evolve? During the 1946 elections, an overwhelming majority of the subcontinent's Muslims did acknowledge the demand for the establishment of Pakistan and they accepted the Muslim League's leadership, but the Muslim League leadership itself was not clear about the relationship between religion and politics. After independence, certain problems concerning the meaning of Pakistani nationality and how to tackle them also arose. These problems have not been resolved to the present day. Many circles have still not decided what their attitude should be toward their country and what importance and status it should be granted in the formulation

of the Pakistani nationality. The issue of the relationship between religion and politics has become somewhat more complicated. In this regard people who witnessed the arguments that took place during the years immediately following the establishment of Pakistan are well aware of the intensity of this conflict. One of the proofs of our inability to decide about this argument up to the present is Justice Munir's book "From Jinnah to Zia." Although in Pakistan the perception of the oneness of politics and religion has nearly solidified, to some extent another reality plays a role in the acceptance of this perception in unequivocal terms. First, in 1947, the great exchange of population took place. Prior to this, due to the separation of Bengal and Punjab, the balance of non-Muslim population in Pakistan lessened. Then, after the separation of East Pakistan, an overwhelming majority of non-Muslims became separated from the present Pakistan. In the current Pakistan, therefore, the argument about the relationship between religion and politics is, to a great extent, superfluous, since an overwhelming majority of the population is comprised of Muslims. Nevertheless, until 1977, certain parties called themselves secular, and this term existed in their manifestos. When the Pakistan National Alliance was established in opposition to the former government, and religious and nonreligious parties gathered together under it, the outcome in our country was totally different from the result in India during the same year of unity among opposition parties mentioned in the beginning of this article. In our country, all nine parties joining the National Alliance, declared the establishment of Nizame Mustafa, the Islamic system, as their goal and objective, and religious outlook clearly overshadowed this campaign. All parties declared the establishment of an Islamic society in Pakistan as their objective. Certain people have been searching for a great similarity between the formation of the Janata Party in India in 1977 and the establishment of the National Alliance in Pakistan, saying that both were against administrations that believed in being the standardbearers of socialism. The reality, however, is that there is only a superficial similarity between the two countries, since, rather than the Congress, more parties favoring socialist ideologies joined the Janata Party in India. In Pakistan, even the elements having no ideological differences with the People's Party joined the Pakistan National Alliance. The tremendous difference that surfaced as a result of the establishment of these two unions is that the formation of the Janata Party in India ended the era of Indian parties favoring sectarianism, and Congress's political philosophy, whose methodical parts were nationalism and secularism, became an overpowering political philosophy of all of India. On the contrary, in Pakistan, as a result of this unity, the perception of the oneness of politics and religion became stronger than ever and even the nonreligious parties expressed their agreement with religious slogans. At present, there is not a single party in Pakistan that can be termed secular just because it reflects a disassociation with the economic, social and political teachings of Islam or does not believe in granting Islam any status in the country's affairs.

Recently, defunct Jamaat-e Islami's leader Mian Tufail Mohammad spoke of the difference between religious and nonreligious parties, and he gave very distinct significance to this. It is worth pondering how even those parties that have been declared as religious parties by Mian Sahib have reacted to his statement. Two or three leaders of Jamiat-e Ulama-e Pakistan have challenged

the appropriateness and the reality of this difference, and said that none of the parties of Pakistan now favor a system that is against the Holy Koran and the Holy Prophet's practices. Under these circumstances, therefore, it is principally wrong and practically dangerous to divide the political parties on religious and nonreligious grounds. Rather, certain individuals have gone so far as to say that this kind of division and differentiation reflects Jamaat-e Islami's effort to cause conflict and civil war on religious bases. The implication is that if you divide and segregate Pakistan's political parties on the basis of their way of thinking and attitude toward religion and politics, even those parties whom you label as religious disagree with this label. Under these circumstances, therefore, it is not wrong to say that no one in Pakistan now claims to be associated with a secular type of politics. However, this should not lead one to believe that a complete unity has been created in the real perceptions of and preferences for the relationship between religion and politics among all parties. It is not so, and the above-mentioned similarity or unity is limited only to the rhetoric in their manifestos and claims.

[10 Dec 82 pp 3, 14]

[Text] The practical attitudes of various parties toward religion are quite different. Only one expression of this attitude is the fact that the leader of the largest group of the Muslim League frequently calls his party a non-religious party, and if he names his own party as religious, he calls those parties identified as religious parties, parties favoring sectarianism. In other words, he is not prepared to place his party in the same category with all other religious parties. If he calls them religious, for the sake of comparison and discrimination he calls his own party nonreligious. If, at times, for some reason, he calls his own party religious, he describes others as prone to sectarianism. His aim is to stress that his party's thinking, temperament and attitudes are different from those of the religious parties.

This, then, is the thinking of the Muslim League which gave us the slogan: "The Meaning of Pakistan—No God But Allah." Various other parties, to a great extent, portray an attitude of disinterest regarding the intervention of true religious practice in political affairs, and religion does not have any specific importance in their preference for and approach to national problems. What we wish to say is that although after 1977 no party has expressly disassociated itself from religious slogans, in reality the vague and confused thinking that the subcontinent's Muslim League leadership maintained about the relationship between religion and politics, characterized by a simultaneous association and disassociation with religious politics, is present in Pakistani politics even today. It is a different matter that as far as the slogans go, none of the parties is prepared to be taunted for being disassociated from religion. Another aspect of this situation is also worth nothing. The parties that in a recognized sense are known as religious and whose leadership clearly has a religious background also have differences in their perception of religion and preferences for molding the society according to Islam. Therefore, with regard to religion, there are in fact many more disagreements than can apparently be seen in our political life. Under these

circumstances, therefore, the difference between religious and nonreligious parties does not appear to be very real. The country's real problems are economic development, an increase in national productivity, attainment of science and technology and, along with these, struggle for social and economic justice. These problems are such that they have no specific connection with religion. There is only one limited field where the difference between a religious and nonreligious approach is obvious. This is the social and moral field, and this difference will remain unchanged. The real difference between slogans and programs is not so conspicuous in the world outside the sphere of culture and morality. Under these circumstances, for the establishment of political unity the difference between religious and nonreligious parties consequently does not appear to carry much importance, and it is quite possible that in a real sense there is the likelihood of joint action between religious and nonreligious parties on many issues that could provide the grounds for bringing them closer. For example, the struggle to restore democracy in the country is now the primary issue. No party's religious or nonreligious attitude should hinder joint action for this purpose. It is also not essential that after having achieved the objective of restoring democracy, such combined efforts should continue. Joint action is not merger, it is the name given to working together for some specific goal. On the other hand, if thinking and viewpoints are mutual only on the surface, it would not be worthwhile to engage in discussion about religious and nonreligious parties working toward certain goals. Currently the defunct Jamaat-e Islami is talking a lot about the uselessness, or rather the harm, of negative unions. However, the parties with which it declares its ideological harmony are the ones that oppose its new way of thinking the most. Therefore, it should not be difficult to conclude that the only result of Jamaat-e Islami's present policy would be that it will never be able to join or unite with anyone. If the party's leadership has now decided to work independently in the country's politics, it should continue to stress the difference between religious and nonreligious unions. But if it feels the need for joint action, it should create some flexibility in its thinking. The party's current stand also negates many of its own past decisions. From 1948 or 1949 it started cooperating with nonreligious organizations like the Civil Liberties Union, and up to 1977, to attain specific goals, it worked jointly with both non-religious and religious organizations. It is not clear what significant change has taken place in the current situation that has led the party to set such a strict condition of religiousness for any other party to unite with it in action.

9779

CSO: 4656/57

CALL FOR IDEOLOGICAL UNITY AMONG LEADERS, PARTIES

Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 3 Jan 83 p 10

[Editorial: "Pir Pagara's Candidness"]

[Text] Pir Pagara, leader of the Muslim League, stating that his party's participation in any alliance with the defunct People's Party is out of question, said we cannot permit the leadership of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy to pass into the hands of the stranglers of democracy. He made this statement during the course of his address at a dinner given in his honor in Sukkur. To further clarify his viewpoint, he said that not only is there no mental harmony and agreement on principles between the Muslim League and People's Party, but the latter is accustomed to using threatening language whereas democracy calls for understanding and perception.

Pir Pagara's candidness certainly deserves praise. But along with this, it must also be borne in mind that to compete with the defunct People's Party and its new sympathizers...in the political field, necessary preparations will have to be made with all due consideration, prudence, diligence and perception, which are especially required to bring about mutual participation and cooperation among like-minded parties in connection with their relationship with Islamic ideals and the ideology of Pakistan. This is also essential so that when the time comes for holding elections, the tragedy of the December 1970 elections is not allowed to repeat itself and parties having identical views on Islam and ideology of Pakistan are not arrayed against one another and the stranglers of democracy do not again succeed despite gaining comparatively fewer votes.

In this connection, it will not be enough to rely on the prudence of voters alone. The leaders of political parties must have identical views on Islam and ideology, act wisely and comprehend the ill-effects of quarrelling among themselves. The wisdom of voters alone cannot be expected to yield positive results. The only way to maintain a high number of voters supporting Islam and the ideology of Pakistan is by ensuring that the leaders of parties believing in this ideology work in a spirit of good will, compromise and broad-mindedness. At the same time, to keep aloft the ideals of Islam and the technology of Pakistan, they should work in a spirit of selflessness and sacrifice. In this respect, above all Pir Pagara will have to focus his attention on the elder statesmen of the Muslim League and seek ways of somehow persuading them to return within the fold of a single Muslim League.

It is true that because of separate electoral systems the defunct People's Party will not be able to gain the votes of non-Muslims, including the Qadianis, as was the case during the 1970 and then the 1977 elections when they managed to get about 100 percent of their votes. But the Muslim League and other supporters of Islam and the ideology of Pakistan should also take into account the popularity of the slogans of the defunct People's Party calling for "bread, clothing and housing" and the many political families that were forced to support this party after it came into power because of temptation offered by it or through fear and intimidation. Some of the parties that joined the defunct People's Party to save their honor left its ranks as soon as danger subsided. But the traditional worshippers of the ascendancy of power will no doubt continue to take advantage of such opportunities in the future. The supporters of Islam and the ideology of Pakistan should not only come to an understanding with circles that do not have any connection with the left but they should as exigency may require do their best to please them and win them over to their side. But no alliance or any relationship should be formed with parties having leanings toward the extreme left or which are potential adversaries of Islam and the ideology of Pakistan until such time as they themselves perceive the necessity of changing their thoughts and ideologies.

Another point that is of equal importance is that the habit of forming an alliance with the sole purpose of toppling a government and which is tantamount to a merciless joke at the expense of the country and the nation, should be stopped. During the late Ayub Khan's term of office and then again when the so-called people's government was in power, such temporary and negative alliances always proved extremely damaging to the people and the country and made the struggle and the invaluable sacrifices of many ineffective. This is why the Muslim League and other like-minded parties, instead of joining hands to bring down the government, should strive to strengthen the cooperation and alliance that exists among them on a lasting and firm basis to give the nation and the country a strong government. There is not the slightest doubt that as Muslims our religious objectives are identical, so too for strengthening Pakistan and serving the nation the line of action to be adopted should be the same. In other words, it should not be surprising for the people to note that the hearts of leaders holding each others' hands and preaching unity from the national platform are not in disharmony with each other to such an extent that they cannot tolerate standing in the same row while offering prayers. If somehow they are forced to come close together through circumstances beyond their control, then rumors as to whether it happened or did not happen begin to spread. The truth is that so long as a sense of mutual toleration and magnanimity of spirit and well-wishing befitting Muslims is not created among the leaders of organizations supporting Islamic principles and the ideology of Pakistan, the feeling of distrust and treachery they hold for each other will persist.

The time has come to put an end once and for all to all kinds of reproach among like-minded parties. If for any reason, or due to some natural stubbornness, any leader or group persists in its criticism, then instead of reacting in a like manner, silence should be observed and restraint exercised

so that the person indulging in reproach realizes the mistake of his actions. This is how bitterness caused by scurrilous language can be prevented from escalating. People blessed with a love of their religion and the zeal to serve the country established in the name of Islam should work with courage and choose the path of righteousness. In this context, the Muslim League can be of great service. The Muslim League is not an atheistic organization and at the same time it is free from sectarian tendencies. The newspapers too have their own role to play in this case. It is the newspapers that air this matter in their columns. Some virtuous statesman should get the nation's editors together around a table and draw their attention to this issue. It is quite possible that no newspaper would like to take a one-sided action in this respect.

9315

CSO: 4656/67

JEWISH 'PLOTS' AGAINST MUSLIMS, PAKISTAN AIDED BY SUPERPOWERS

Lahore CHATAN in Urdu 26 Dec 82 p 6

[Article by Mohammad Ovais Ghorī: "The True State of Affairs: Red and White Imperialism Is Active in the Islamic World; The Qadian Tribe in Pakistan Is in Charge of Representing These Elements"]

[Text] It has been proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that the Jews are striving to gain influence in the political affairs of the Islamic world. Propaganda about the Islamic bomb and similar matters are glaring proof of this effort. The Muslims are guilty of the sole crime of considering the great powers their friends and helpers and neglecting to follow the path advocated by Islam and its prophet, the last of the line of prophets. The Islamic world in general and the Arab world in particular have fallen into the net of the great powers which, on the one hand, obstruct unity among the Muslims and on the other hand consider it their bounden duty to help the Jewish lobby to the best of their ability.

Since its inception, Pakistan has helped its Arab brothers to the fullest extent and has fought shoulder to shoulder with them against the cruelty and injustice of the Jewish power hostile to Islam; and from the streets of Pakistan's sacred soil to the United Nations platforms, the country has unmasked Zionist intentions. For this reason, the Zionist lobby has writhed in anger against Pakistan's crusading role, and its organizations have left no stone unturned in their many efforts and have tried everything, from dismembering Pakistan to paralyzing it economically. You will be surprised to learn that there is an Ahmadiya center in Israel.

One of the weapons used by Jews to destroy a nation is to destroy its confidence and sense of purpose; they try to extinguish its belief in itself; they try to shake its self-reliance and burn its domestic peace in the fire of class animosities. They try to destroy unity and common purpose by creating hatred, antagonism, class conflict and mistrust. To further their continuous plots, they overturn the rule of law, moral restrictions and social systems; they conduct propaganda against religious values and standards and religious leaders. When a country falls into the web of their conspiracies, they pose as sympathetic well-wishers through either red or white imperialism, and using financial, technical and military aid and advisors as cover, they colonize these countries and deprive them forever of the capacity for freedom,

self-sufficiency and individual identity. In Pakistan, the Qadian tribe represents these enemies of Islam and misses no opportunity to spread religious, political, economic, financial and class dissension. They want to entrap the nation in their plot and prevent it from following the path to its destiny, setting it instead on another course.

The purpose of writing this is that some individuals here seem to want unrestrained freedom. They are either suffering from self-delusion or are greedy to seize leadership under a red or white imperialism. We should not, even for an instant, lose sight of the fact that Americans, Russians, Jews and their supporters are our enemies and are antagonistic to our ideology.

It is a matter for reflection that on the one hand, the Islam-hating Jews have total control over the American economy and aid, and on the other hand, Judaism is not only given a very high position in Russia, where it is a crime even to mention Islam, Christianity or any other religion, but Muslim inhabitants of areas with Muslim majorities are deported and Jews are settled in their place. A university has been established to promote Jewish culture and their ancient language and to conduct research in it. According to one report, Russia is the only country in the world where it is a crime to say anything against the religion and the leaders of the Jews. Everyone knows that the director and other influential employees of PRAVDA, which is the mouthpiece of the Kremlin, are all Jews. It is in pursuit of the same course that ever since Pakistan's inception, efforts have continued to keep and appoint members of the Qadian tribe to important posts in Pakistan.

Pakistan stands at a critical turn in the road. The people are not allowed to decide that they reject both red and white imperialism. We should be ready to unite as one to fight the enemies of Islam and Pakistan. We should not become puppets in the hands of these enemies and turn against each other.

9863

CSO: 4656/68

BRIEFS

MINISTER ON DEFICIT FINANCING--ISLAMABAD, Jan 13--Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, Federal Finance Minister, on Thursday expressed the hope that the Government would contain deficit financing for the fiscal 1982-83 to the extent stipulated in the Budget last July. He was asked to comment on a Press report saying that provision of Rs 5,700 million deficit financing for the whole fiscal year has been exceeded by Rs 500 million in the first six months. The Finance Minister explained that there were periods when the cash flow would go down, but from December Government revenues should start flowing and it was estimated that the year would close as stipulated in the budget within the expected deficit financing. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 14 Jan 83 p 6]

TI LEADER HELD, RELEASED--The Central Information Secretary of defunct Tehrik-i-Istaqlal, Mr. Nafees Ahmed Siddiqui, was arrested by the North Nazimabad Police yesterday afternoon, and was later released on the personal surety of Khwaja Khairuddin, Secretary-General of the MRD. Mr. Siddiqui was arrested for violating the Loud Speaker Ordinance, holding an unlawful assembly, and defying the Martial Law regulation. Mr. Mairaj Mohammad Khan, Assistant Secretary-General of MRD, criticised Mr. Siddiqui's arrest and said it seems that there is a one-party (Jamaat-i-Islami) rule in the country. He said there was no ban on holding of meetings and taking out of processings by the Jamaat-i-Islami and Islami Jamiat-i-Tulaba throughout the country. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 14 Jan 83 p 6]

MRS BHUTTO TO VISIT UK--LONDON, Jan 14--Begum Nusrat Bhutto, chief of the defunct PPP, has agreed to give an interview to "Channel-4" the newly set up commercial TV channel in Britain. Since Begum Bhutto moved to Nice in her younger sister Begum Behjat Hariri's flat in south of France to avoid meeting her persistent supporters, this is the very first interview Begum Bhutto has agreed to give to the media. The sober Fleet Street right-wing "Daily Telegraph" is also believed to be trying to get an interview with the Begum for its Women's Page. Meanwhile, Mr M. Arif, Convener of "Campaign for the Restoration of Human Rights in Pakistan", has received a letter from Begum Bhutto, written from Nice, thanking him for the invitation he arranged to be sent to her asking her to visit UK on behalf of some 25 MPs, including Mr Callaghan, the former Labour Prime Minister. The Begum has told Mr Arif that she would come to London when her physical condition would permit, and address a meeting at the House of Commons. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 15 Jan 83 p 1]

KASHMIRI LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT PLANNED--LAHORE, Jan 14--The University of the Punjab has set up a Kashmiri department with a view to teach this language to those who desire to in Punjab. Prof Dr. Mohammad Yusuf Bukhari, a Kashmiri from the valley, is incharge of the department. This department will also undertake research work on the Kashmiri language. The department will be inaugurated by the Federal Minister of Information, in the last week of January. The Department will publish a dictionary of the Kashmiri language and a quarterly periodical "Kashur." The Azad Kashmir Government has also decided to teach Kashmiri language in the middle schools of Azad Kashmir as an optional subject, while Inter colleges have also been directed to prepare courses in the Kashmiri language. President General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq has already directed that the biography of the Quaid-i-Azam, which is being prepared by the Quaid-i-Azam Academy, should also be published in the Kashmiri language. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 15 Jan 83 p 4]

WORLD BANK MISSION DUE--A World Bank mission will visit Sind next month to review progress of Agriculture Extension and Adaptive Research Project in the province. Work on the project, cost Rs. 156 million, is progressing smoothly. About 550 farm extension houses are being constructed in five districts. A new concept of training and visit system has been introduced under which field staff will be trained about the latest and improved farm technology, and adaptive research farms are being established for effectively utilising results of agriculture research. An agriculture Extension Directorate has been set up at Sukkur to cover Upper Sind with crop specialists posted for the first time in every sub-division of the project district. Plans are afoot for the second phase to cover the remaining seven districts during Sixth 5-Year Plan. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 15 Jan 83 p 4]

ISLAMABAD DEVELOPMENT PLANS FINALIZED--ISLAMABAD, Jan 14--Development schemes costing Rs. 700 million for the Federal Capital under the Sixth Five-Year Plan have been finalised. According to the local administration sources, the schemes were prepared in consultations with the members of the local bodies and concerned departments and were finalised at a meeting held here the other day. Provision of basic health, educational and other facilities to the people of Islamabad and the adjoining 112 villages are envisaged in these schemes. The schemes include: construction of 270 kilometre roads to connect 81 villages, 25 water supply schemes, installation of 249 tubewells, setting up of 12 basic health units and three basic health centres, one veterinary hospital and four veterinary dispensaries. About 69 villages will be provided with electricity under the proposed schemes. The schemes will now be sent to the Planning Commission. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 15 Jan 83 p 4]

BOOKS BY NWFP POLITICIANS--Peshawar, 2 January (Special Correspondent)--Seven prominent politicians of the North West Frontier Province are either writing books or have completed the task; and owing to the death of one of the writers, the publication of his book is now uncertain. Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan's book "The Khudai Khidmetgar [Servants of God] Movement and My Struggle" is now complete and under publication in Kabul. The book is in

Pushtu and if necessary may be translated into Urdu later. Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan completed the book in Kabul. The leader of the defunct Tahrik-e Istiqlal, retired air marshall Asghar Khan, has completed his book, "Politics and the General," and sent the manuscript to London, where publication will soon begin. The book, which is in English, was written by Asghar Khan during his house arrest. Khan Abdul Wali Khan's book is not yet complete. He collected sufficient material during his trip to London but has not found time to finish his book. He told newspaper correspondents that he was waiting to be sent to jail so he could find time to finish the book. He was asked what he would do if he was not sent to jail; he answered that he would return to a distant village or unknown place and try to write. It is reported that Wali Khan will be going to London in April, when he will retire to a village and write his book. The late Khan Abdul Qayum Khan's manuscript, which was in English, contained his views on British foreign policy in the subcontinent and his comments on the present conditions. He had nearly completed his book before his death, but the manuscript is now reported to have been lost. [Text] [Lahore NAWA-I-WAQT in Urdu 3 Jan 83 pp 1, 10] 9863

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